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## LORD PALMERSTON.

In spite of his great age, and of the knowledge that his work must now be nearly done, every one of us has felt a shock at the news that Lord Palmerston was dead. He was at the same time the most powerful and the most popular man in England, and the course of English politics at home and abroad had been so much moulded by him for years past, that it seemed as though without him the country could not go on. As it is, we think we feel, but are not quite sure that we know, how great in losing him our loss has been. The death of Lord Palmerston must, before long, be followed by important political changes, for there were many men in both Houses of Parliament who supported his Cabinet for the simple reason that it was his, and fully subjected to his wise controlling influence. Nothing was likely to go very wrong so long as Lord Palmerston was chief. It was certain that no extreme measures would be introduced at home, and, if imprudent despatches were sent abroad, the experienced Premier could be counted upon to see that, at the last moment, they led to no practical results. A Prime Minister cannot fairly be held answerable for all that is

done in each department of the Cabinet; for, except on supreme occasions, each Minister acts independently of his colleagues. Thus, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs may, at a Cabinet Council, lay despatches on the table; but no other Minister, unless invited to do so, thinks of looking at them. Lord Palmerston was not the man to repudiate any sort of responsibility that directly or indirectly attached to his office; but, if during two important diplomatic negotiations in which England has been engaged since the year 1853, the management of our foreign affairs had been altogether in Lord Palmerston's hands, we should probably have escaped from both not only safely—as we have done now—but even honourably.

It is chiefly, no doubt, as England's Foreign Minister that Lord Palmerston will be known to posterity; and as long as Lord Palmerston had the sole direction of our foreign policy it was eminently worthy of a great and free country. In France, in Germany, and in Russia, Lord Palmerston has always been hated; but no Foreign Minister can be loved abroad, unless voluntarily or involuntarily he betrays his own country. Those foreign political writers who accuse

England (when she is not engaged in massacring the Irish or in poisoning the Chinese) of exciting all kinds of troubles on the Continent that England may profit by them, look upon Lord Palmerston as the friend of European Revolutionists—of the men who in France, Prussia, Austria, and Russia would upset the existing Governments on the mere chance of being able to establish new ones framed after their own fancies. But the European Revolutionists themselves have always looked upon Lord Palmerston in a very different light, and have taken every opportunity of representing him as the friend of the despotic Powers. In these contradictory accusations, the fate may be read of all politicians who try to steer a medium course between opposite extremes. But Lord Palmerston felt that he had no account of his actions to render either to the party of anarchy or to the party of tyranny in Europe. It was from a sense of duty as the Minister of a free country that he did not hesitate to condemn the conduct of Austria in Hungary and Italy, and of Russia in Poland; and that no one on either side might be deceived as to the true import of his words, he never failed to explain that, while he



FUNERAL OF SERGEANT DRANFIELD, INSTRUCTOR OF THE 1ST TOWER HAMLETS ENGINEERS.

felt bound to raise his voice on behalf of oppressed nations, yet that England could not actively befriend them unless her own interests or her own honour were engaged. The revolutionary and the despotic parties in Europe will continue, no doubt, to maintain their utterly irreconcilable charges against the great English statesman; and it is quite possible that some immediate harm may have been caused not only to the despotic governments, but also, and above all, to those who have risen against them, by the encouragement that has sometimes been given by Lord Palmerston to hopeless insurrections. But that encouragement may yet produce good results in cases where hitherto nothing but evil seems to have been caused. It would, for instance, be idle to pretend that, in relation to the affairs of Italy, it was unimportant whether the sympathies of England were for or against the Italians. Moral support is always, more or less, the shadow of material support; and if the Italians could not count upon England for positive aid, they knew, from the very declarations so often made by Lord Palmerston, that England would at least give them negative assistance, inasmuch as she would never give the least help or encouragement to their enemies. The Italians knew, moreover, that England would be the first country in Europe to recognise their new kingdom; and if this was not important, why, we should like to know, was so much importance attached only the other day to the recognition of Italy by Spain? Although Russia was in close alliance with France throughout the Italian war, and made a great parade of her hostility to Austria, she refused to acknowledge Victor Emmanuel as King of Italy until long after the establishment of the Italian kingdom, and not until the Italian Government consented to abolish a Polish school which some of the principal supporters of Garibaldi had established at Cuneo. England, without conditions of any kind, and in the most spontaneous manner, extended her hand to Italy at the earliest possible opportunity; and this was simply the manifestation of the national goodwill, as expressed by Lord Palmerston times out of number, when his speeches in favour of Italian independence were regarded by the headlong revolutionary party as mere hypocritical demonstrations. In regard to Italian affairs, the friends of despotism made no mistake as to the part played by Lord Palmerston; and his services have always been willingly admitted by the moderate party in Italy, of which Count Cavour was the chief representative.

But Lord Palmerston has not always confined himself to supporting the cause of liberty in Europe in an indirect, or rather in a peaceful, manner. The constitutional kingdoms of Belgium and of Greece are better proofs of his sincere zeal on behalf of free institutions and of national independence than any number of speeches and despatches in favour of Italy and Poland. England can only act where her fleet can act. This argument was never made use of by Lord Palmerston; but it should be remembered, all the same, that when he professed sympathy for a cause without being able to defend it by force of arms, it was often impossible to do so without involving England in a general European war, while in two such instances in which England had every facility for action, action was really taken and with complete success.

If Lord Palmerston will be remembered throughout Europe by his foreign policy, it will not be forgotten in England that he for some time presided, with marked ability, at the Home Office. His reply to a Scotch deputation who wished for a national prayer against cholera, and were recommended to try cleanliness as a preservative, has become celebrated—not because it was particularly clever in itself, but because it was so unlike an official and so like a man of the world to give such a humorous, and at the same time such a practical, answer. It was as Home Minister, too, that Lord Palmerston said pleasantly (and very ingeniously), on the subject of street-cleaning, that dirt was only "matter in the wrong place."

Indeed, it was the utter absence of official pedantry and the constant presence of a manly tone in all his speeches, whether addressed to deputations, to the House of Commons, or to public meetings, that, above everything else, endeared Lord Palmerston to the English people. Without being by any means an intemperate speaker, he sometimes said harsh things in debate; but this was on the principle of returning blow for blow—thoroughly understood and appreciated by Englishmen. No one more fully understood or more perfectly represented the feeling of the great mass of Englishmen in all political matters than Lord Palmerston; and in losing him we lose not only our ablest Minister, but also the most eminent English politician of the latter part of the nineteenth century.

#### FUNERAL OF A VOLUNTEER.

ONE of the most remarkable demonstrations which has yet been made by the metropolitan volunteers took place on Sunday afternoon, the occasion being the funeral of Sergeant Dransfield, instructor of the 1st Tower Hamlets Volunteer Engineer Corps, who was unfortunately killed, while on duty, through the premature explosion of a mine. Sergeant Dransfield formerly belonged to the Royal Engineers, and joined the above volunteer regiment some four years since. During his connection with the corps he gained the highest esteem of the officers and members, and when he met with his untimely end it was determined to pay him full military honours at the grave. Captain John A. Coffey, Commandant of the corps, issued a regimental order in which he invited the members of other volunteer corps in the metropolitan district to join with his regiment in forming the funeral procession. This invitation was responded to in a manner which gave a most convincing proof of the thoroughly general feeling which animates the entire body of volunteers. It having been announced in the daily papers that the funeral would take place on Sunday afternoon, an immense number of spectators assembled to witness the ceremony. The troops met at the militia barracks, Globe-street, at the back of Bethnal-green church. Two o'clock was named as the hour

of muster, but long before that time the immediate neighbourhood was densely crowded by people, and it required a strong body of police to keep the streets sufficiently clear for the different corps of the volunteers to march to the barracks. About 3000 men, belonging to all arms of the service, paraded. The regimental orders for mourning were a band of crape, 4 in. wide, to be worn by every member of the corps on the left arm, midway between the shoulder and the elbow, the grenade on the busby and the ornament in front of the cross-belt to be covered with crape, and the drums to be muffled in crape. Officers to wear a black sash, a band with row of crape round the busby, and black kid gloves; the grenade and sword-knot to be covered with crape. For undress, in addition to the crape on the arm and cross-belt, the ornament in front of the cap to be covered with crape. About three o'clock the procession started for the cemetery in the usual order, the band and firing party being supplied by the 1st Tower Hamlet Volunteer Engineers, to which the deceased belonged. The body was borne on the carriage of a 9-lb. gun, belonging to the 1st Tower Hamlets Artillery. The grave detachment was commanded by Captain Welch. The national colours covered the coffin. The relatives and friends of the deceased followed the gun-carriage in mourning-coaches, and after them marched the body of the volunteers belonging to the corps represented. It occupied one hour and a half to march from the barrack-ground to Bow Cemetery, at which the interment was to take place; and so vast was the crowd that it was with the greatest difficulty the procession could move along. The Mile-end-road was densely packed with spectators. All traffic was stopped, and the volunteers only managed to keep their ranks by joining arm-in-arm and then forcing their way through. Every window and almost every house-top throughout the long route was occupied. It is estimated that 200,000 people must have been present. In the cemetery itself another 15,000 to 20,000 had assembled; and here a most exciting scene took place. In the early part of the afternoon very commendable order was observed, and the visitors passed away the time by strolling about the grounds and watching the other funerals; but when the music of the band was heard there was a great rush toward the gates, and the pretty flower-beds at the entrance and along the sides of the walks, and even the shrubbery, were trampled down and completely spoiled. The police did all in their power; but it was with the utmost difficulty that they could keep an opening for the procession, much more preserve order amongst such a multitude. The grave was situated near the church, and every spot which commanded a view of it, or of the walk along which the funeral procession passed, was occupied. The corpse was met at the entrance to the cemetery by the Rev. George Henry M'Gill, M.A., Incumbent of Christ Church, Watney-street, St. George's-in-the-East, Honorary Chaplain to the regiment to which the deceased belonged. He was assisted by the Rev. D. Shaboe, Chaplain of Bow Cemetery. It required a force of mounted and foot police to open a way for the procession, and it was only after a good deal of struggling that the grave was reached. It was at first intended to have read a portion of the service in the church, but as some thousands of the spectators had taken possession of the approaches to it, besides which only a comparatively few of the volunteers could have got in, it was determined to perform the whole service over the grave. The prayers were read by the honorary chaplain, and at the conclusion of the ordinary service he delivered a short but earnest address upon the solemnity of the event. He reminded the volunteers that for four years the deceased had been associated with them, and that he had discharged his duties in the most excellent and praiseworthy manner. He lost his life while performing his duty, and the suddenness with which death overtook him ought to remind them of the fearful uncertainty of human life, and warn them that they should be ready to meet the momentous change. Truly, the sad death of their comrade taught them that in the midst of life we are in death. But, although his body was then lying in the grave beneath him, his spirit should still be with them. He lived and died a faithful servant to his Queen and country, while his best efforts were devoted to their interests. He (the Chaplain) trusted they would hold his memory in affectionate remembrance, and show their respect by imitating his worthy example. It might indeed be said of the deceased that he was the friend of them all. Great must have been his worth when they saw so many thousands assembled to do honour to his remains. One would think that a distinguished Field Marshal had gone to his rest instead of a humble sergeant of engineers. In conclusion, the Chaplain stated that next Sunday he should preach a funeral sermon at Christ Church, when the volunteers and congregation would have an opportunity of contributing something for the widow, who had been left wholly unprovided for.

The firing-party then took their position round the grave and fired three volleys. The regimental band next played "Vital spark," after which all the troops on the ground filed past the grave. They then marched off, and the ceremony ended.

#### Foreign Intelligence.

##### FRANCE.

It is remarked that the Parisians are paying more attention to the visitation of the cholera this year than they did in 1849 and 1854, and this is attributed to the political calm and total absence of sensational news at the present moment. An approximate estimate has been made of the number of cholera cases in Paris, which, in the absence of any authoritative return, may be accepted as coming pretty near the fact. This estimate gives the number of patients received into the hospitals in the twenty-four days preceding Saturday last as 979. What the proportion of mortality in these has been cannot be satisfactorily ascertained. The *Courier Medical*, however, states that on one day last week there were 121 deaths in the hospitals and in the city together. There is a slight increase in the deaths at Marseilles and Toulon. Versailles is reaping a rich harvest by the alarm which prevails in Paris on account of the cholera. People who can afford it are flying from the capital and taking lodgings in the old residence-town, where, it seems, cholera never shows itself.

The frigates Eldorado, Gomer, Mogador, and Labrador are being fitted out to proceed to Civita Vecchia, where they will meet on the 1st of November in order to embark 3700 French troops, infantry and cavalry.

M. Deschamps, at one time the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, recently published a pamphlet on the probability of Belgium being annexed to France. A second edition of the brochure, with a new preface, has just appeared, in which the writer expresses his strong fears for the fate of the smaller European States, owing to the divided and chaotic condition of the Germanic Confederacy, the reappearance of the ancient antagonism between Austria and Prussia, and the non-intervention policy of England and Russia. Altogether, the political condition of Europe he considers to be highly favourable to the success of a clever and ambitious potentate such as the Emperor Napoleon. M. Deschamps proceeds to point out such means as he thinks ought to be adopted to remedy such a state of matters and ward off the accomplishment of evils which appear to him to threaten Europe.

##### ITALY.

Letters received at Florence from Rome dated the 16th inst. state that Monsignor Merode has resigned the portfolio of the Minister of War, and that the post thus rendered vacant had been intrusted to Cardinal Antonelli. It is further stated that Monsignor Pila, Minister of the Interior, would be replaced by Monsignor Sbarretti, and that other Ministerial changes were expected to take place shortly.

##### SPAIN.

The cholera has been very severe in Madrid within the last few days—that is to say, there have been a great many cases of cholera, but the proportion of deaths does not seem to us to have been large. A wild panic appears to have prevailed. Over 60,000 people have fled from the city, and the election movements which were going on

are stated to have been completely suspended. Political activity, however, appears to be reviving, as we learn from a late telegram that, at a meeting of the leading members of the Constitutional Progressist party, it was resolved to abandon the policy of abstention and take part in the approaching elections. It is stated that the Queen and King of Spain will shortly return to Madrid to visit the hospitals and other sanitary establishments in that city.

##### TURKEY.

The whole Taurus tribes have submitted to the authority of the Porte. The Turkish troops have in consequence been recalled. A new Council of State has been created, under the presidency of Mustapha Fazyl Pacha, for the investigation of contracts, concessions, and other economic measures.

##### THE UNITED STATES.

We have news from New York to the 7th inst.

Most of the State Conventions, which were engaged in the work of framing new constitutions, had resolved, while admitting the black population to all other civil rights, that they shall not be admitted to the franchise.

Mr. Davis had been removed from the casemates to other quarters in Fort Monroe.

General Lee was formally inaugurated President of Washington College, Lexington, Virginia, on the 2nd inst.

A meeting of the grand central council of the Fenian Brotherhood had been held at Astor House, at which delegates from all the centres were present. The events transpiring in Ireland were canvassed, and the meeting decided to call a special general congress of the entire order, to assemble at Philadelphia on the 16th inst., when business of the utmost importance will be brought before it.

Cairo despatches report the destruction of 3500 bales of cotton by an incendiary fire in Memphis, on the 1st. Five thousand eight hundred bales of cotton in Mobile were also destroyed by incendiary fires on the night of the 5th and morning of the 6th.

The most important news respects France and Mexico. It is said that a Cabinet Council had been held at Washington to take into consideration a report that France was raising troops in Egypt for service in Mexico, and that the result had been announced in a despatch of Mr. Seward to the French Government, which states that the United States Government will not permit additional troops to be sent to Mexico by France, and that any further intervention may lead to a serious misunderstanding between the two countries. This despatch, however, is alleged to be non-existent—that the only documents of the kind have reference to transactions which occurred in 1861; and it is semi-officially announced that the United States Government has taken no recent action, nor contemplated any, inconsistent with absolute neutrality between the belligerents in Mexico. General Grant is represented as declaring everywhere that France must be driven out of Mexico, predicting that the Federal Government will shortly declare war, but his conduct is not approved by that Government. The St. Louis papers report the arrival of Juarez at Santa Fé, in New Mexico, en route for the United States. The report is considered doubtful. The Imperial forces in Mexico were making great progress.

##### WEST INDIES AND SOUTH AMERICA.

The news from the West India Islands is more interesting than usual. A shock of an earthquake had been felt in Trinidad and many other places. Guadalupe had been devastated by a hurricane. The insurrection in Hayti was virtually subdued, and the evacuation of Domingo by the Spaniards had been completely effected. It is not surprising to learn that Peru is still in the throes of revolution—now the normal condition of that unhappy republic. The Spanish fleet had left the Peruvian coast for Chili to exact an indemnity. There was a general revolutionary movement throughout New Granada, and the British Vice-Consul had sent to Jamaica for a vessel of war to defend British interests. The Government of Salvador had shot the late President of that republic, after trying him by court-martial, and this event had provoked great horror in the adjoining State of Nicaragua, the authorities of which had surrendered him on condition that his life should be spared.

##### NEW ZEALAND.

From New Zealand we have some further particulars of the discussions between General Cameron and the Governor; but, as the former has returned to this country, this episode now belongs to history. The situation of affairs, in a political sense, is becoming more complicated. On the meeting of the Legislature the Auckland members actually debated whether they should take their seats or stand aloof altogether from that body. Mr. Weld's Ministry, nevertheless, appears to be very strong. He is going to dispense entirely with the Imperial troops and to give representation to the natives.

##### FRENCH REPORT UPON THE CHOLERA.

The following report to the Emperor, drawn up by MM. Drouyn de Lhuys and Armand Béhic, has been published in Paris:—

Sire,—At the commencement of the last invasion of the East by cholera your Majesty's Government was preoccupied with the dangers which the appearance of that scourge threatened to the general health of France. Under the inspiration of this precautionary idea the immediate dispatch to Egypt of a medical mission was decided upon, not only for the purpose of bringing enlightened assistance to the victims of the epidemic, but also to study the causes, the march, and the character of the malady, in order to arrest its progress as much as possible and prevent its introduction into the territory of the empire.

Diplomatic and consular agents have afforded the members of the medical mission an amount of assistance which has facilitated their task, and, upon its side, your Majesty's Government has not ceased to apply its most serious attention to the examination of the important question to be resolved. We have the honour to submit to the Emperor the reflections this examination has suggested to us.

To preserve our population and the whole of Europe against the periodical attacks of cholera, it seems that we ought rather to seek to stifle the evil in its birth than to impede it upon the route. It is not sufficient to oppose it, upon each of the stages it traverses, obstacles which inflict real injury upon commerce, and only offer to the public health guarantees too often powerless. It is, above all, necessary to organise at the point of departure a system of preventive measures concerted with the territorial authorities by means of international arrangements.

The information gathered by the consular agents, and confirmed by the unanimous reports of the physicians, manifestly proves that the epidemic has been imported into Egypt by pilgrims returning from Mecca and Djeddah. Thus it is alleged that the cholera exists every year among the caravans of Mussulmans arriving in these holy cities, after fatigues and privations of every kind, which render them more liable to the malady. This predisposition is singularly favoured by the state in which these multitudes live—camping in the open air, exposed to a torrid heat and to the influence of the pestilential miasma given forth by heaps of impurity and the putrefied remains of animals offered in propitiatory sacrifice. These permanent causes of infection have been still more active this year by reason of certain facts which may again occur, and which we consider we ought to point out to your Majesty's attention.

Upon the one hand, the number of pilgrims collected at Mecca for the Kourban-Bairam (feast of sacrifices) was, owing to a particular circumstance of the Mussulman rite, far more considerable than in preceding years. The number of individuals, of all ages and both sexes, arrived from the various Mohammedan countries to go through the consecrated ceremonies, was estimated at not less than 200,000; and the quantity of sheep and camels slaughtered, the oil of which was abandoned upon the ground, exceeds a million. It is not astonishing that this agglomeration of human beings, and this enormous quantity of animal substances in decomposition, should have developed in exceptional proportions the conditions of insalubrity which the pilgrims habitually encounter.

Upon the other hand, it is to be remarked that, in former times, the principal movement of pilgrimage was carried on by land, and that the passage of the desert contributed to improve the hygienic condition of the caravans by isolating and dissipating the morbid elements they carried with them. Nowadays, on the contrary, thanks to the facility and resources of steam navigation, it is by sea, and in a very short space of time, that these voyages are in great part accomplished, by the aid of packets, upon which are crowded thousands of Mussulmans of every nationality. This accumulation, added to the shortness of the passage, is certainly one of the causes which must contribute to the development of epidemic centres.

These new circumstances call for a surveillance and control over the operations of embarkation and transport of the pilgrims which seem to have been hitherto altogether insufficient. It is intelligible of what high importance it is that the sanitary condition on board these packets should not be disguised, either by the commanders of those vessels or by the authorities which pronounce their admission to free pratique. We may be allowed to

hope that if a system of observation and surveillance had existed at the point of departure, and if exact reports upon cases of illness arising during the passage had attracted the vigilance of the local sanitary authorities in time, they would have been able to extinguish or isolate the centres of infection, the influence of which has successively extended to Syria, to the coasts of Asia Minor, and to a portion of Southern Europe.

From all the facts we have just mentioned, Sire, we are led to deduce the conclusion that the present time is truly opportune to bring about the meeting, at an early date, of a diplomatic conference, in which should be represented the Powers interested, like ourselves, in the reforms demanded by the present organisation of the sanitary service of the East, and which, after having studied the questions to which we have the honour to solicit your Majesty's attention, should propose practical remedies. The members of this conference would have especially to examine whether it would not be necessary to establish, at the points of departure and arrival of pilgrims returning from Mecca—that is to say, at Djeddah and Suez—sanitary administrations having an international character, which should secure their independence, and give to their management all possible guarantees of loyal impartiality. We may reckon upon active co-operation upon the part of the Eastern Governments, whose States in the progress of these epidemics are the first to suffer from the ravages of the scourge and from the interruption of commercial relations.

If, as we venture to hope, your Majesty deigns to accord assent to the considerations we have the honour to present, the Emperor's Government should hasten to place itself in communication with foreign Cabinets, in order to combine, by common agreement in a conference, and bring about a generality of measures whose necessity is demonstrated by recent and sorrowful events.

#### A ROYAL STICKLER FOR CEREMONY.

THE following order of the day has just been issued in Stuttgart to the Würtemberg army :—

1. It has been observed with displeasure that, when his Majesty enters the box in the Court theatre, the officers present do not rise all together, but upon one side later than upon the other.

2. Officers are reminded that, when the Queen enters the Royal box after the King, her Majesty is to be saluted separately.

3. It has been repeatedly observed with displeasure that the guards deliver the salutes prescribed by the regulations too late before their Majesties. The excuse that the sentry before the guardhouse delayed in turning out the guard will be no longer accepted, but the commandant of the post will be made personally responsible for the delivery of the salute at the proper time.

4. As mistakes have occurred in the salutes to be given to his Royal Highness Prince Frederick, attention is directed to the fact that the salutes prescribed for Princes and Princesses of the Royal house in the direct line are to be delivered not before Prince Frederick only, but whenever his Royal Highness passes the guardhouse accompanied by his Royal Highness's consort, Princess Catherine. To avoid error, in case their Royal Highnesses should drive past the post together, in a closed carriage, the footman at the back will make a sign to the sentry by raising his arm.

5. The excuse that a soldier has omitted the prescribed salute from ignorance of the King's person will no longer be admitted. All soldiers have to make themselves well acquainted with his Majesty's person. For this purpose exact photographs of his Majesty are to be obtained, at the regimental cost, and hung up in the barrack-rooms.

6. The excuse that the prescribed salutes to their Majesties were omitted because, being in a close carriage, they were not recognised by the passers-by, cannot be accepted. Soldiers are advised, in case of doubt, to deliver the prescribed salute before every closed court carriage.

When, in the reign of King William, his present Majesty's father, a Princess complained of irregularities in the salutes of the posts, the King gave orders that, to prevent such irregularities in future, that Princess was never to be saluted at all. The present King appears to have adopted a different system. His Majesty clearly thinks there is nothing like making sure.

#### IRELAND.

HORSEDEALERS' TRICKERY.—The Ballinasloe horse-dealers have invented a nice way to impose on their English patrons. A dealer is asked, say, £300 for a hunter. He offers to give that price provided £30 is "thrown back," and accordingly buys the horse for £220, giving a cheque and getting a receipt for £300, and getting back £80 in cash. When the horse is shown in England it has become matter of newspaper history that it was sold for £300 at Ballinasloe—a fact which the dealer corroborates by the production of his cheque and receipt books; and no purchaser possessed of a spark of liberality can grudge paying £50 or £100 profit for the transaction.

#### SCOTLAND.

A MESSAGE BY THE SEA.—A gentleman belonging to Coupar-Angus, Fife-shire, while on his way home from Rotterdam to Leith, and when about one hundred miles from the mouth of the Rhine, inclosed his card in a bottle, pencilling on the back of it that he would pay a sum of money to anyone who brought or sent the card to his address. The bottle, carefully corked, was dropped from the steamer Holyrood about twelve o'clock noon of the 9th of September, and on Wednesday morning, the 11th of October, the gentleman received per post the identical note from a fisherman, who had picked it up on the shore near Sizwell Gap, about seven miles north of Orfordness, in the county of Suffolk. The bottle was found about three o'clock on the afternoon of the 5th inst. The gentleman at once transmitted the promised reward to the finder. It is somewhat remarkable that a promissory-note placed in such a position should, within a month's time, be presented for payment.

#### THE PROVINCES.

PLAYING AT HIGHWAYMEN.—On Saturday week two or three young students belonging to one of the Bath colleges went out on a fishing excursion to Limpley Stoke. One of them was an Irishman, who seems to have fortified himself for the journey with a bottle of whisky and a horse-pistol. Discarding the gentle sport, they turned to the turnpike-road for more exciting game. Coming along was a donkey-cart with two boys in it. Our Irish friend, quite in the Dick Turpin style, pounced upon the "small deer" whom chance had thrown in his way, presented his horse-pistol, and bade them deliver or die. The boys created a great hubbub, and one of them escaped with his coat torn to pieces, after having had his pockets rifled, while the other was belaboured with a fishing-rod. The fugitive, however, brought assistance; the young hero of the rod was captured, after a desperate resistance, and, on being brought before the magistrates, a fine of £5, including costs, was inflicted, and the other cases of assault were compromised at the same costly rate.

A FASTIDIOUS THIEF.—A fashionable outfitter near the Liverpool Exchange, who locks up his shop and store-rooms on Saturday night and spends Sunday in the country, was surprised one Monday morning lately to find that the premises had been entered and his choicest goods overhauled or removed. On making an examination, he found in one corner a heap of ragged garments, and it was evident, from the fact of some of the "choicest things" in drawers, shirts, stockings, &c., being abstracted, that the thief had rigged himself out in the most delicate and costly style. From the way in which the place was ransacked, he must have been there for several hours; and, in order to make himself as happy as possible, he had made himself coffee, and had smoked a number of fine cigars which the proprietor kept for his own private use. So exquisite were the tastes of the visitor, that he did not consume more than an inch of each cigar, and threw the remainder away. The same principle of "sampling" was adopted with a box of the finest ready-made handkerchiefs, which, after being once used, were thrown into a heap in a corner and left there. In order to ventilate the room during his operations, the thief propped open the window with the ledger. After enjoying himself for some time, he took his leave, carrying away a large quantity of valuable things. He has not yet been discovered.

ATTEMPT TO PRODUCE A RAILWAY COLLISION.—An atrocious offence was committed, on Sunday morning, on the railway near to Wolverhampton. On the south side of the Great Western Railway Station, near to that town, the systems of the Great Western and the West Midland unite, and there are the customary junction signals; but one of them is worked from a signal-box, the occupant of which, through the intervening of a bridge, cannot at all times see the lights and the arms respectively. At a certain time between two and four in the morning, two trains pass the junction in opposite directions at nearly the same time, but are prevented from colliding by the signals of one or other of the lines being kept at danger. On Sunday morning the Great Western train found the signal by which it was regulated down, and the driver therefore brought his train on; but he perceived that at the same time the West Midland signal was down also. On passing the box of the signalman he called his attention to the subject. The signalman then found that he could not work the levers of the signals in question, and, on examination, discovered that some one had, by operating upon the lamps without entering the signalman's box, put the signals on both lines at safety, and to keep them in that position had so hung the weights at the base of the signal-posts that the levers could not be worked in the box. Suspicion rests upon a discharged servant.

TREASURE-TROVE.—A few days ago the wife of Sergeant Hopkinson, the resident officer in charge of the police station, Nottingham, whilst removing some articles from a cupboard in the sitting-room, found two large bags full of coins. Surprised at the discovery, she at once called her husband, and on opening the bags it was discovered that they were both filled with silver. The sergeant and his wife were at a loss to account for such booty being located in their rooms. After some consideration it was thought the money must have had some connection with the late Parliamentary election. Accordingly the discovery was reported at the office of the magistrates' clerk, and the mystery was soon explained. At the late election numerous special constables were sworn in, and a detachment of them was accommodated at

Sergeant Hopkinson's rooms, at the watch-house. These constables were by law entitled to remuneration, and the two bags, which contained £30, had been placed in the cupboard in this room to meet contingencies. Not being required, however, the money was forgotten, and in all probability would never have been missed, had not Sergeant Hopkinson made known the fact that he had found it. The sergeant has been rewarded with a gratuity of £5 for his integrity.

LORD SOUTHERN has reduced the rents of all his farms which have been let by public competition during the past eight or nine years. We believe all these reductions are permanent. They are granted on liberal conditions, and vary from 12 to 20 per cent.

#### LAUNCH OF THE LADY DERBY.

THE first ship built at the new yard of Messrs. Maudslay, Sons, and Field, at East Greenwich, was launched on Saturday last. She is a fine screw-steamer, built for the General Iron Screw Colliery Company, her length over all being 183 ft. 6 in.; her breadth, 27 ft. 6 in.; her depth, 18 ft.; and her tonnage, about 530 gross measurement. She is designed on Henwood's patent dynamical principle, and the engines (with which she is immediately to be fitted) are of 90-horse nominal power, but capable of working up to more than six times that standard. The keel of the Lady Derby, as the new vessel is called, was laid on the 18th of last May, and she is now in a state of perfect readiness to receive her masts, engines, boilers, and all other fittings and appointments.

This launch at East Greenwich is an occasion of some note, as it marks the commencement of large works in connection with one of the first engineering firms in the country. Like Messrs. Penn and other eminent engineers, Messrs. Maudslay, Sons, and Field had until lately been in the practice of handing over the construction of ships for which they contracted to builders whom they supplied with engines. They have now entered on the extended branch of operations for themselves, and have fitted up a spacious yard with workshops of great size, whither it is probable that their Lambeth factories may in time be transferred. At present their hands seem pretty full at both scenes of industry. They have just completed for her Majesty's Government a pair of engines of the collective power of 1350 horses, nominal, for the Agincourt; they are putting on board the Lord Warden, in Chatham Dockyard, a set of three cylinder expansive engines, with surface-condensers and super-heating apparatus, of the collective power of 1000 horses, nominal; they have in hand for the Juniper, screw steam-transport, engines of smaller power, but on the same principle as those of the Lord Warden; and their other commissions for the armour-plated vessels Viper and Penelope are in active progress. Besides these labours for the Government, Messrs. Maudslay and Co. are commencing upon a set of three-cylinder engines for the Ottoman Porte, which will be the most powerful steam machinery ever yet projected, their working capacity being estimated at 7000-horse power.

The occasion was marked by one great drawback to the usual festive feeling which one is in the habit of meeting at a ship-launch. On arriving at Messrs. Maudslay's works, the visitors found the flags on the Lady Derby half-mast high. Mr. Fitzpatrick, one of the oldest and most valued servants of the firm, and latterly a partner, died almost within a day of the time named for the launch, he having been busily engaged in the preparations up to a very few hours before his death. Had a postponement of the launch been practicable, it would have been the course adopted by the other members of the firm as soon as the melancholy tidings reached them; but a great many of the cards of invitation already issued did not bear any name, so that the expedient of sending forth circulars was rendered unavailing. The ship was "christened" by Miss Maudslay, who performed her part of sponsor with much grace. The colours with which the ship was decorated were released from their mournful position and run up to the trucks, and a most successful and pretty launch followed. At the sumptuous luncheon which followed all toasts but one—"Success to the new ship"—were waived in consideration of the loss sustained by the firm in the death of their condutor. The presence of a Turkish gentleman, now an almost certain incident of occasions like that of Saturday last, was generally understood as indicating the fact, which, indeed, we have already stated—namely, that the Sultan is one of the customers of the East Greenwich establishment. Of the vessel launched that day, the unanimous voice of eminent judges who were present at the ceremony was most favourable; and in particular the plan which gives the new ship an extraordinary amount of stowage room for cargo, by confining her engines within a very small space, received hearty commendation.

#### "IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."

NOTWITHSTANDING the disapprobation which greeted Mr. Charles Reade's dramatic version of his novel, entitled "It Is Never Too Late To Mend," on its first production at the Princess's Theatre, the piece continues to be played nightly to good audiences.

The piece is in four acts, and the first act, though somewhat lengthy and confused, runs smoothly enough. It opens up the story of two brothers, George and William Fielding (Mr. G. Melville and Mr. Gaston Murray), who occupy a small farm in Berkshire. Their prospects being blighted, George is persuaded to emigrate to Australia; but an attachment for his cousin, Susan Merton (Miss Katherine Rodgers), makes him hesitate to carry out such a resolve. Meantime, however, a scheme is being worked to get George out of the country, despite his own inclination to remain. He has a rival in the person of Mr. Meadows, a land-agent and successful adventurer (Mr. F. Villiers), who, aided by one Peter Crawley, a low attorney (Mr. Dominic Murray), causes a distress warrant to be served on the farm for rent, and arrests George's friend, Tom Robinson (Mr. George Vining)—who also has been instigating him to go to Australia and dig for gold—upon a charge of theft. In this state of things further inducements are held out to George to quit the country, the strongest of all being that Mr. Merton (Mr. H. Mellon), the father of his beloved Susan, promises him her hand on condition that he should emigrate to Australia and bring back a thousand pounds. This promise decides his fate, and George leaves England; but Meadows' suit is little favoured by his rival's departure, for he has a sworn enemy in one Isaac Levi (Mr. T. Mead), a revengeful old Israelite, who raves immoderately about the troubles he has experienced, and who is determined to lose no opportunity of standing between the land agent and his fortunes. Here we have the groundwork of the story, and a certain degree of interest is raised as to the probable future of the various characters whose relative positions are thus indicated; but in the second act they are lost sight of, with the exception of Tom Robinson, who, having been, as before observed, arrested for theft, is now in prison. This incident has been seized upon by the author as a vehicle for the demonstration of his peculiar impressions regarding the system of prison discipline in this country; and, in order to favour the exposition of his views, Mr. Vining has bestowed infinite trouble and expended a considerable sum of money in converting the stage into a house of correction. The convicts exhibited are about as numerous as they may be supposed to be in a "real" prison, and they are all dressed and ticketed with a correctness and minuteness of detail which tend to favour the impression that they have escaped from actual incarceration and have lent their timely services to the management of the theatre. Oakum-pickers are represented in ample numbers, and gangs of convicts, chained together, pass and repass in the most mournful solemnity, until at length the painful scene changes to the hall of the prison, and afterwards to the "corridors." These corridors are carefully and practically built up from the stage to the roof; the prisoners' cells are exhibited, and the usual injunction as to the necessity for observing the strictest silence is inscribed in large letters on the walls. The governor and the gaolers constantly make their appearance, and Mr. Reade's notions as to the severity of our prison system are shown through the manner in which he makes those officials treat the unfortunate malefactors under their control. The victims chosen in furtherance of this extraordinary and singularly undramatic design are the culprits Tom Robinson and a poor boy named Josephs, who is imprisoned for stealing food.

Solitary confinement and every other form of prison severity are undergone by these two offenders; and, though Master Tom Robinson may be said to set a somewhat dangerous example to his companions in disgrace, the spectators are lost in astonishment as to what the meek and innocent-looking boy (very touchingly played, by-the-way, by Miss Louisa Moore, a most interesting and intelligent young lady) could possibly have done to merit the succession of tortures he is made to undergo. He is condemned to dry bread and water; he is bound arms and body to a post; his bed—or, rather, piece of sacking which forms his bed—is taken from him, and he is confined to his cell for fourteen days, with every conceivable prohibition upon any proceeding which might yield him a moment's comfort or relief! At length the tyranny of the authorities meets its natural result; and the ill-treated boy falls dead, surrounded by the turnkeys, and in presence of the appalled spectators. There were, as a matter of course, large numbers in the theatre who applauded this event (probably because the death-scene was thought to be so life-like!); but, on the other hand, a considerable proportion of the audience vehemently protested against the exhibition. Cries of "Off, off!" "Shame, shame!" "Disgusting!" "Apology!" "Manager!" &c., were vociferously repeated, until at length those exclamations gave place to the demand that Mr. Vining should "come forward and excuse this disgraceful exhibition." In obedience to this call, Mr. Vining did come forward, and, instead of appeasing the wrath of the dissentients, made a brief speech, which, to say the least of it, was extremely injudicious, and led to further expressions of indignation and disgust—such as "Where's the Lord Chamberlain?" "This is not a political meeting!" "A piece which Mr. Reade ought never to have written and Mr. Vining ought never to have accepted," &c. The performance, however, was ultimately allowed to proceed.

The third act represents life in Australia, where George Fielding and Tom Robinson meet, and a desperate conflict takes place between those two worthies and some murderous ruffians, who endeavour to deprive them of a huge nugget of gold, which they have found through the sagacity of Jacky, an Australian savage. The would-be robbers being overpowered, George and Robinson dispose of the nugget for £7000, and with that sum they return to England and Susan. Meantime, however, as shown in the fourth act, the machinations of Meadows and Crawley have been at work, and the former contrives to steal the £7000 from the inn where the two friends are staying, on the eve of Meadows's intended wedding. The theft is, however, discovered, through the instrumentality of the ever-watchful Isaac Levi, and when the rogue Meadows is about to lead Susan to the altar—having succeeded in persuading that credulous young lady that George has married another—his villainy is unmasked, and he and his reputable companion are conveyed to prison. Mr. Merton is delighted to find that George has returned with £7000 instead of £1000, as agreed upon between them, and immediately gives the hand of his daughter to the man who had long won her heart. Thus all ends happily—except for the two schemers, Meadows and Crawley, "virtue being rewarded and vice abashed."

#### SCENES OF AUSTRALIAN LIFE AND CHARACTER.

##### PACKING GOODS FOR THE DIGGINGS.

THE system of transit in Australia will seem somewhat peculiar to our readers, accustomed only to the speedy, cheap, and safe means by which goods are transported from place to place at home. The method we have illustrated is only adopted in parts where the country is extremely mountainous—so much so as to render it impossible for vehicles of any description, even-bullock-drays, to travel. There are many rich and permanent diggings where the miners would starve but for this means of supplying them with the necessaries of life. There are also many diggings which are quite accessible for conveyances in the summer where the roads become totally impassable in winter, and can only be traversed by means of pack-horses. Besides, the rivers become so swollen by the rains as to prevent anything crossing. Of course there are no bridges in parts of the country so newly inhabited. In an event like this, the pack-horse proprietor will sometimes float his load across, either on rafts or a boat, and then swim his horses over to the other side. As may naturally be supposed, this is a very laborious and expensive mode of transit; and, exorbitant as it may appear to our readers, we have paid one shilling per pound for carriage, and considered that we were favoured in getting our goods taken at that price, the distance only being forty miles. We are not alluding to a remote period, but to last year, when we chanced to winter at a diggings in Gipp's Land. The district was of an uncommonly mountainous character, some of the tricks having almost a perpendicular appearance. The arrival of the pack-horses was looked for with the utmost anxiety, especially when a person was hungry, and had, very likely, traversed the whole of the diggings in the vain hope of being able to purchase a few pounds of flour, and had met the same disagreeable reply at each store—viz., "Not an ounce left; waiting for the pack-horses." It is only in such circumstances that people learn to fully value horses. Their endurance and sagacity are equally wonderful. Sometimes they will travel with heavy load forty or fifty miles, without food, and in several instances have had to return the same distance with but one small feed. Their intelligence is forcibly displayed on their ascending a high, precipitous hill, on which occasion they will turn round and stand right across the track or between two trees, as though knowing they relieve themselves to a great extent. And again, if lost in the snows which prevail in winter in the mountainous districts, they will invariably take their bewildered and lost master home by the right track; and, in case of the snow extending where no trees have been cut down, the road being only indicated by the beaten ground over which other parties have travelled, the horses will always pilot the way in safety.

The goods are brought in drays as far as the state of the roads will admit; they are then unloaded, and the various articles packed on horses, all of which are furnished with good substantial pack-saddles. About 160 lb. is the weight generally carried by each horse, but of course it varies in accordance with the strength of the horses and the condition of the roads. When machinery is packed it is generally cast for the especial purpose—that is to say, in pieces weighing not more than 110 lb. to 150 lb. each, or else there would be no means of carrying it to its destination.

The horses being laden and all things in readiness, their arduous journey commences. The man in charge is, of course, on horseback; sometimes he takes the lead and leaves the horses to follow him, especially if it is a new district; but he mostly keeps behind to make the stragglers keep up with the rest.

On their arrival at their destination the goods are unpacked, weighed (paid-for packages and all being counted in the weight); and the driver and his horses again return to fetch up fresh loads. This is the only means adopted for carrying merchandise about the mountainous diggings and country of Gipp's Land, especially Wood's Point, an almost recently discovered gold-field, about 160 miles from Melbourne, and which has obtained a great celebrity for the extremely rich nature of its quartz reefs. Even in Australia, where, from the everyday occurrence of large auriferous deposits being found, it naturally takes a great deal to make any particular district famous, this one has caused a complete sensation.

The discovery of these reefs depends quite as much on chance, or luck, as knowledge. We may remark that we know a person about twelve miles from McIvor Diggings, who went out one Sunday for a walk, with his daughter, about thirteen years of age, and while her father was reading, the young lady amused herself by knocking a loose piece of quartz against a larger piece, protruding above the ground, from which she succeeded in chipping off a bit, and, much to the joy and satisfaction of both herself and father, found the stone completely studded with small specks of gold. By so simple a means as this one of the richest reefs in the district was discovered. It bears the name of the young lady who found it.

Whether the quartz veins or reefs have been formed from the

surface by aqueous deposition, or whether they have been thrown up from below by the action of fire, nothing can be more striking or various than the shapes and colours they assume. The casing or wall of the reef is generally formed of slate of a lightish colour, while the quartz itself is sometimes white, yellow, brown, a pinkish white, black, or red. There have been many scientific suggestions offered as to the origin of these reefs, and also as to the manner in which the gold became imbedded in the mass of stone in which it is found. Many have been of a most valuable nature, among them those of Sir R. Murchison; but we think the most feasible of all, if we might venture an opinion, is, that the quartz has been cast up in a liquid state, through a mass of superincumbent slate and sandstone; this opinion being still further strengthened by the fact that some of the rocks through which it was forced are partly dissolved, and possess a peculiar, dark, burnt appearance.

The heat in which quartz veins seem to have had their origin apparently drove out the pyrites usually found in auriferous quartz, as it is almost free from these substances. Many other reefs show the most unmistakable signs of fire. There is one great peculiarity in the quartz reefs of Australia—in their having no particular direction, bearing, or underlie, while in Cornwall the richest lodes of copper and tin run east and west. In Australia the underlie of the vein is no criterion as to its produce; neither is there any reason to expect that, because a reef is rich on the surface, it will be the same below, say at 100 ft. or 200 ft. On Bendigo Diggings the New Chum Reef was very rich on the surface, while below it ran right out, and the stone mould scarcely paid carting expenses; while, as an opposite illustration, at Poverty Reef, Steiglitz Diggings, 40 oz. of gold were obtained from quartz got from a shaft 400 ft. in depth, while the upper veins would not even pay to crush. An ounce of gold to a ton of stone gives a very handsome return. The best stone in the Mariner's Reef, Maryboro, is found at 550 ft. to 570 ft. from the surface; while Johnson's Reef, at Bendigo, yielded 1113 oz. of pure gold from a ton of quartz got from the shaft when only 10 ft. deep, but this claim has never yielded anything like it since.

People to whom digging is a new occupation are apt to be discouraged because often times they cannot see gold in the stone with the naked eye. This is no proof of its absence, for we have seen stone in which the slightest speck of gold was not visible yield 18 oz. to the ton.

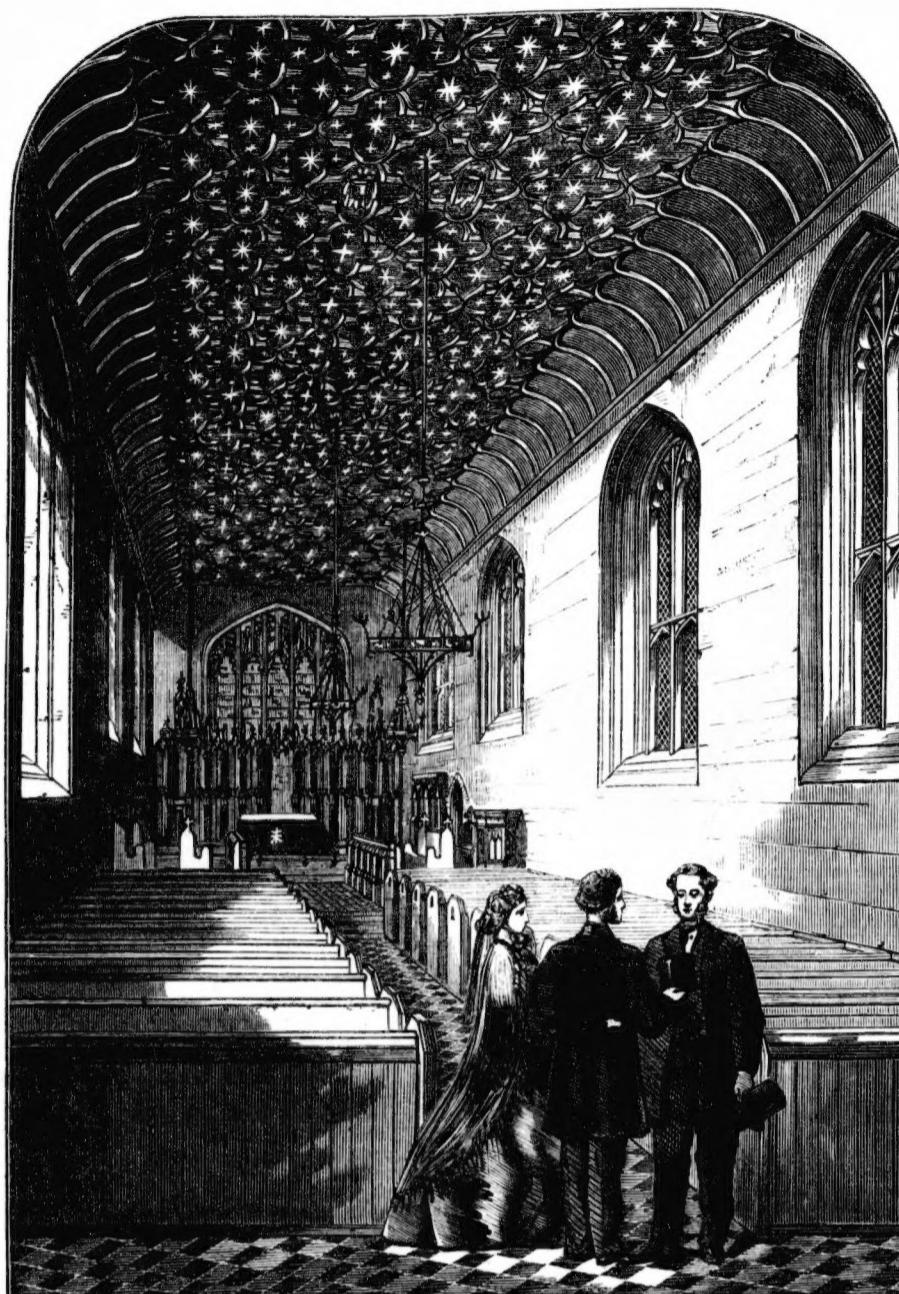
A. A. S.

#### THE RESTORATION OF THE SAVOY CHAPEL.

The precinct of the Savoy is one of the most interesting of those historical localities dear to Londoners. It was anciently the seat of Peter, Earl of Savoy and Richmond, who came into England to visit his niece, Eleanor, Queen to Henry III. It is not known whether the house was built, or only appointed, for him; but after his death it became the property of the Queen, who gave it to her second son, Edmund, afterwards Earl of Lancaster; and from his time the Savoy was reckoned part and parcel of the earldom and honour of Lancaster, afterwards the duchy.

Henry VII. converted the palace into a hospital for the poor,

INTERIOR OF THE SAVOY CHAPEL, STRAND, AS RESTORED.



and it remained so till the time of Charles II., though the master and other officers, by an abuse which grew into a custom, appear to have had no regular inmates except themselves. The poor were to apply, as it might happen; and what they

chapel, the clergyman occupying one of the choir pews as a lectern during the earlier portion of the service.

The chapel will be lighted by gas star jets depending from the ceiling.

got depended on the generosity of the master. In the reign of Queen Anne it was elicited that the statutes and orders relating to the reception of the poor at this charity had not been observed within the memory of man.

Charles II. put wounded soldiers and sailors into the hospital, and since his time it appears to have been used for the reception of soldiers and prisoners; and still later was made a prison for deserters.

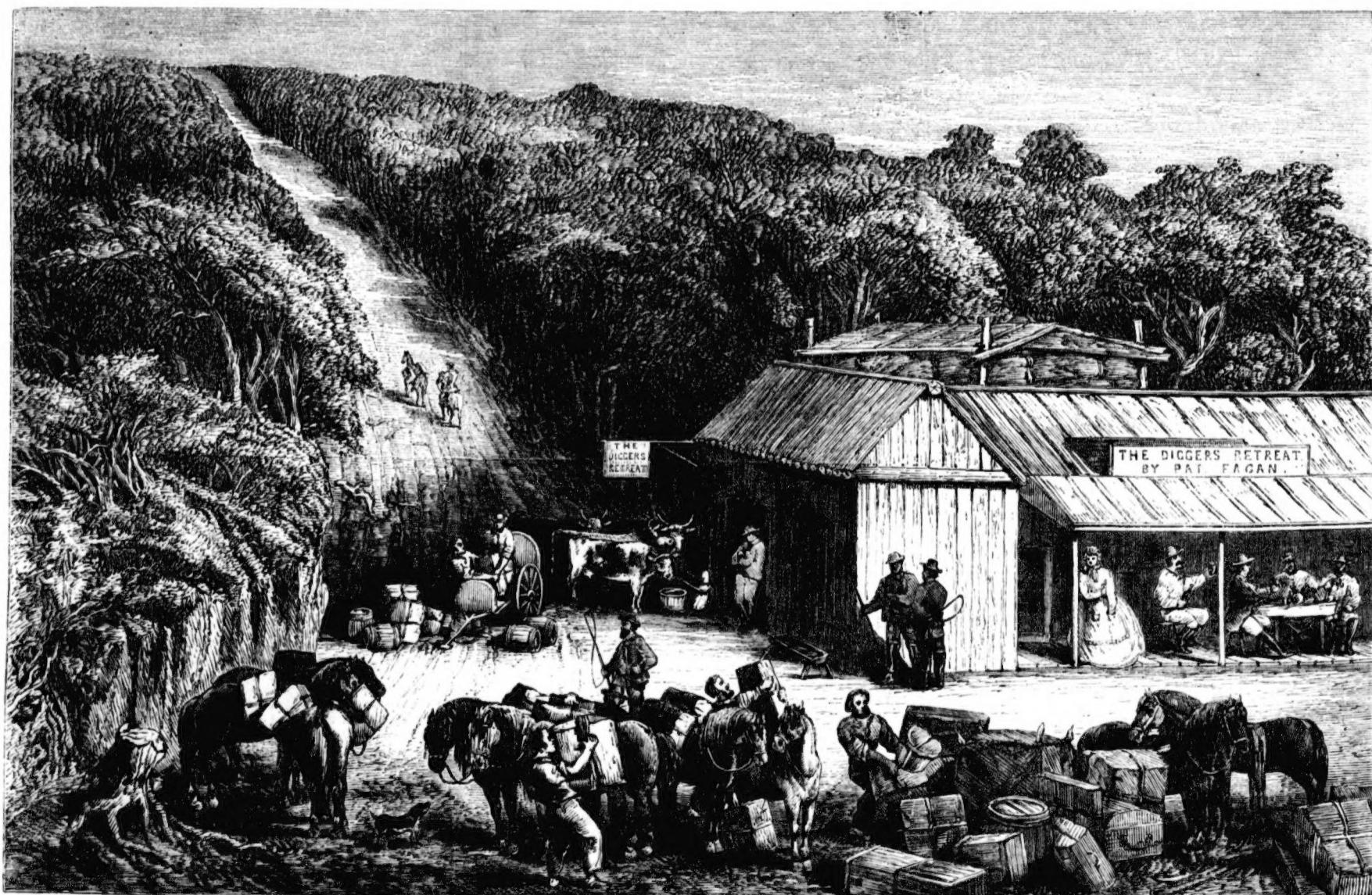
Strype says (1720) :—"In the Savoy, how ruinous soever it is, are divers good houses, First, the King's printing-press, for proclamations, Acts of Parliament, gazettes, and such like public papers; next, a prison; thirdly, a parish church (St. Mary-le-Savoy), and three or four of the churches and places for religious assemblies—namely, for the French, the Dutch, for High Germans and Lutherans, and, lastly, for the Protestant Dissenters. Here be, also, harbours for many refugees and poor people." The chapel of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist, in the Savoy, was a Perpendicular chapel of a late order, and plain in its ornamentation, with the exception of the ceiling, which was richly carved in timber and coloured. The chapel was built in 1505, and the east end was afterwards ornamented with tabernacle-work, in the form of a reredos, the greater part of which was subsequently cut away to make room for the monuments. It lately became a precinct or parish church, and called (but improperly) St. Mary-le-Savoy. This most interesting building, as our readers are already aware, was almost entirely destroyed by fire in its internal portions about twelve months ago, and only a comparatively short time after the congregation had subscribed to erect a magnificent altar window, containing the figure of St. John the Baptist.

Tombs and memorial tablets to many eminent persons occupied the walls of the chapel, but these were entirely demolished. The work of restoration was commenced almost immediately, by command of her Majesty, and the result, which may be seen by reference to our Engraving, has been to re-instate the greater portion in its original style. The ceiling has been exquisitely restored with carved quatrefoils, their interior spaces emblazoned with coats of arms and other devices, their intersections marked with carved bosses, and the whole constructed with innumerable mitre joints, the ground of bright blue on which they rest throwing their fine lines into beautiful relief. The window also has been restored, and consists of four principal figures, while beneath it a stone reredos has been erected elaborately carved in imitation of the ancient ornament before it was destroyed to make room for the monuments, of which none now occupy the walls, the latter being plain. The pavement of the altar and its approaching dais is formed of Minton's tiles of fine colour and elaborate patterns; and the great organ, which will rise from the ground almost to the roof (there being no galleries), will be raised on a similar platform.

The pews are finely carved, and the low stone pulpit is placed on the right side of the

chapel, the clergyman occupying one of the choir pews as a lectern during the earlier portion of the service.

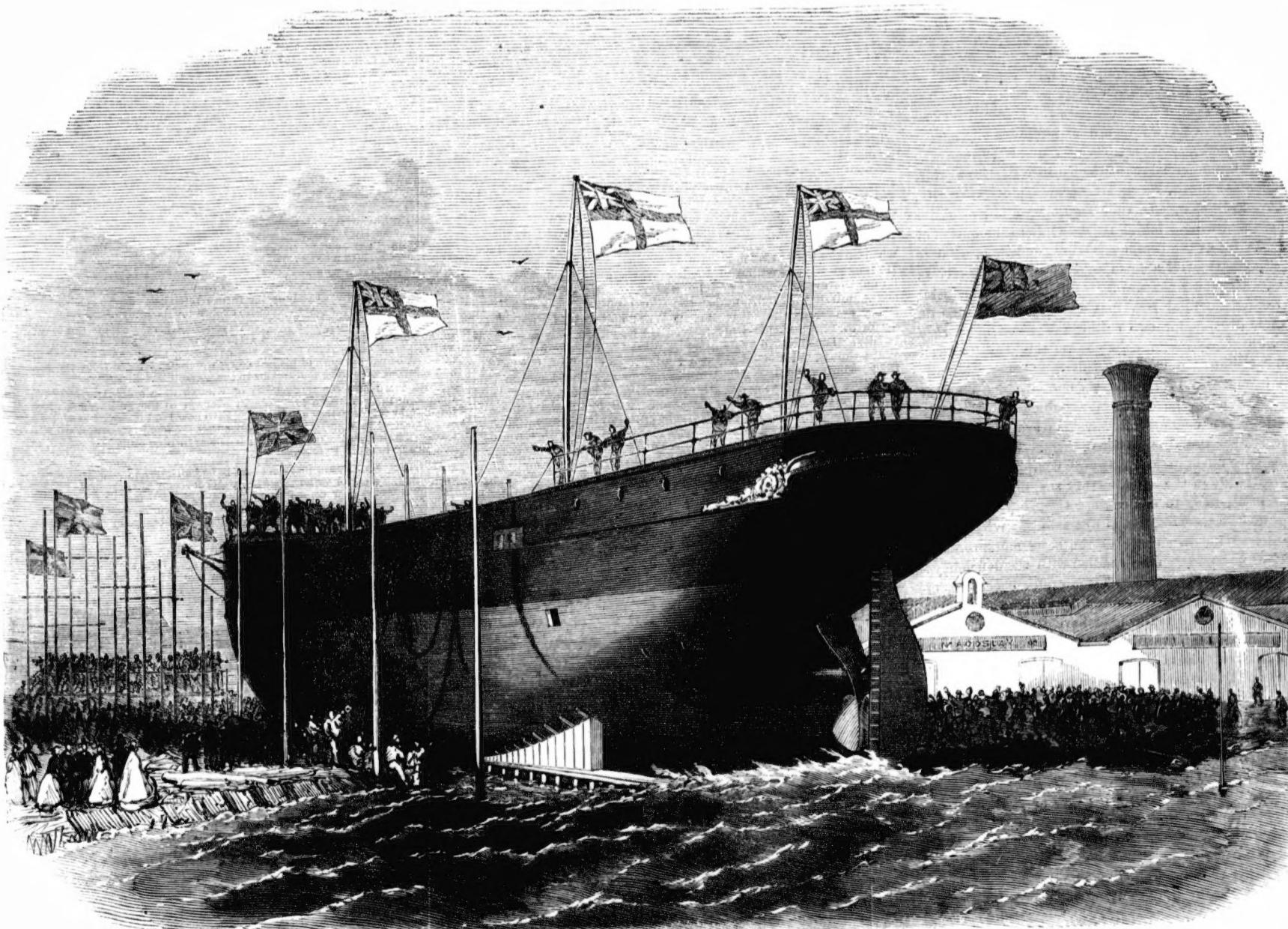
The chapel will be lighted by gas star jets depending from the ceiling.



CONVEYING GOODS TO THE DIGGINGS IN AUSTRALIA.



SCENE FROM "NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND," AT THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE: THE FIGHT AT THE DIGGINGS.



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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1865.

#### COMMERCIAL ANOMALIES.

THERE are many very anomalous things in the business system of this country. Some of these have grown up naturally; but for others it is difficult to account or to understand. We are made to buy one article, which we don't want, in order to enable venders to supply us with another which we do require; the sale of two or more things are joined together, that a loss upon one may be compensated by profit upon another; one class of goods is charged a price higher than it is worth in order that the dealer may recoup himself for losses on others which he sells at less than their value; and one man follows two avocations, the losses sustained in one character being balanced by gains in the other. To put it figuratively, one horse is overloaded in order that another, perfectly able to bear its own burden, may go lightly. This, as we have said, is a very anomalous system of doing business, and stands greatly in need of reform. Let us point out a few instances of what we mean.

Commercial travellers have now become an important portion of the migratory public. They are constantly scouring the country in pursuit of their business, and, as they must lodge by the way somewhere, their custom is of value to hotel-keepers, who appropriate rooms to their exclusive use, and have a special tariff of charges applicable only to them. It is, for instance, an understood thing that dinner in the "commercial room" shall not be charged more than two shillings a head. But this sum does not pay the landlord for the dinner he provides, and so a system has grown up of charging each guest a pint of wine, whether he wants it and drinks or not. This, says mine host, is the only source of profit he has on the "commercials." But, then, the non-wine-drinking traveller naturally objects to paying for what he does not want in order to compensate the landlord for loss upon the dinner. This we regard as simply an anomaly, originating, no doubt, in the anxiety of the shrewd men who usually frequent commercial rooms to guard themselves against the exactions of landlords. But the arrangement pleases no party, and will have to be changed. Diners must pay a fair price for their dinners, and wine-drinking must be left to the option of the guest. So far as the commercials are concerned, we dare say they are pretty well able to take care of themselves; but their case is made an excuse for overcharging the general public. Non-commercial travellers who sojourn at inns do not get their dinners for two shillings a head; but they are expected to take wine "for the good of the house" as well as genuine "commercial gents." This is another anomaly. One horse is made to bear another's burden; one class of customers must make good losses sustained by a totally different one. The commercial travellers are raising a cry against the system practised against them. We think non-commercials have much greater reason to complain.

Again, grocers are in the habit, as they say, of selling sugar at a losing price, and, to compensate this, they charge an extra profit upon tea. This, too, is anomalous. Why should not sugar defray its own share of the costs and profits of trade? and why should tea be saddled with the deficiency? Some people do not drink tea. They prefer chocolate, or cocoa, or coffee; but they want sugar to sweeten their beverages. Why should the tea-drinker have to make good the loss on the coffee-drinker's sugar? This is neither just nor necessary. Each article a man sells should bear a fair proportion of the profits he desires to make in his trade.

Once more. Publicans tell us that they make little or no profit on beer, but must look to pay themselves out of their wine and spirit trade. Anomalous again—if true. The beer-drinker has no right to assuage his thirst at the expense of the consumer of wines and spirits. But there is, perhaps, a worse feature in the matter than even this. Profits must be had, or business can't go on; and we fear profits are often made by adulterating wines, spirits, beer, and all. That adulteration is largely practised we do know; analytical reports have settled that point. But may not traders have been led into the habit of falsifying their goods to compensate themselves for this supposed system of selling certain articles at a loss? The beer is adulterated to make it pay;

the wines are also adulterated to make the beer pay. The publican does a little mixing here, and a little there; forgetting, of course, that he has gone over each article in turn, and "made his profit" upon each. We may trust him to protect himself, and to guard spirits from the spoliations of beer. But who is to protect the public from the publican? We are at his mercy, whether our liquor be beer, wine, or spirits.

Yet once again. Certain individuals ostensibly practise one calling, under cover of which they pursue another. Many tradesmen—such as tailors, bootmakers, outfitters, and so on—are money-lenders as well; and the losses they sustain in the one capacity they make good in the other. But then all who purchase clothes from a fashionable tailor, or boots from a fashionable son of Crispin, are not borrowers of money, and ought not to be charged a percentage to make up for losses on bad bills. We don't object to a man lending money at any rate of interest he can get: to deal in money is as legitimate an avocation as to vend jewellery, or tea, or cheese, or bread. But we do object to two totally different sorts of trade being mixed up together, because in that case one class of customers must suffer for others. This is an anomaly which should be rectified. And other very singular anomalies spring up out of the system. We have heard of a certain "wood merchant" in Dublin whose whole stock of timber consisted of one old oak stump, which was never removed from his yard, but which figured in every transaction in which he was engaged. Mr. Lever, in his "Jack Hinton," tells a similar story of a dashing Captain, who, as part of the proceeds of a "little bill," became the possessor of certain barrels of red herrings, for which, of course, he had no possible use, and which at one time or other had been the property of half the young "bloods" of the Irish metropolis. These are anomalies which had their origin in other anomalies. We once had severe laws against usury; and these laws, being themselves anomalous, gave rise to the anomaly of a man pretending to sell a log of wood or a barrel of herrings when, in reality, he was selling money.

What is the use of preserving all these absurdities in commerce? Why can't a man really follow the trade he pretends to follow? Why can't an article be sold for what it really is? And why can't every article of traffic bear its fair proportion of the vendor's profit? It would surely be better to carry on business in an open and above-board fashion than to have recourse to all these shams and pretences. All things—men included—should be known for what they are. Wherever there is a false appearance, there is roguery or the probability of it. Let us get rid of all these anomalies and shams in trade, and, we may depend upon it, the world will wag on more comfortably and harmoniously afterwards.

#### DEATH OF LORD PALMERSTON.

We deeply regret to state that Viscount Palmerston died on Wednesday morning, at a quarter to eleven, at Brocket Hall, Hertfordshire. The noble Lord had only partially recovered from his recent attack of gout, when he caught a cold; but from this, too, he was believed to be rallying, when a relapse occurred, and he gradually sank.

The Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury; the Right Hon. William Cowper, M.P.; and Viscountess Jocelyn were staying with Lady Palmerston, at Brocket Hall, when the melancholy event occurred.

Henry John Temple, known since the age of eighteen as Lord Viscount Palmerston, was born, in October, 1784, at the family seat of Broadlands, Hants. The peerage is Irish, and his father was the second Viscount. The third—the deceased Premier—was early sent to Harrow, where Dr. Drury was Head Master. He was among the young men, of all politics, who were attracted to Edinburgh at the opening of the century by the fame of Dugald Stewart; and he spent three years under him before going to Cambridge. He had just taken his degree at Cambridge, and come of age, when he was brought forward to represent the University. He lost his election to Lord Henry Petty, the late Lord Lansdowne. He took his seat in Parliament for Bletchingley at Christmas, 1806, when affairs were in such a state that no recess could be allowed. He ranged himself with the Ministerialists, and was understood to be on the eve of office; and he was made one of the Lords of the Admiralty in 1807, under the Portland Administration. In two years more he was Secretary at War; and in 1811 obtained his desire to represent his University. He was then only seven-and-twenty. For nineteen years after he filled the office of Secretary at War—that is, till the breaking up of the Wellington Cabinet, in 1828. During the first two Administrations comprised within this period he was a Tory, as a matter of course, under Mr. Perceval and Lord Liverpool; but, holding the same office in all the three Administrations of 1827, his Toryism was clearly giving way. He had always been an advocate for Catholic emancipation, with Canning; and he was becoming a free trader, with Huskisson. With the rest of the Canningites—Lord Dudley, Lord Melbourne, and Lord Glenelg—he went out when Huskisson resigned.

When he supported Lord John Russell's Reform Bill, in 1831, Cambridge rejected him, as Oxford had dismissed Peel. He had sat for Cambridge two-and-twenty years, and no doubt felt the mortification of his loss. In 1832 he was returned for Bletchingley. From 1832 to 1834 he represented South Hants, and since 1835 he has been regularly returned to Parliament by the electors of Tiverton. In 1830 Lord Palmerston became Foreign Secretary, the capacity in which he will be remembered best at home and wholly abroad. He held the office for eleven years, with the exception of the five months of the Peel Ministry in 1834-5. From 1841 to 1846 he was out of office, and then returned to the Foreign Office for five years. He was prominent in effecting the recognition of the independence of Belgium, and in the formation of the quadruple alliance between England, France, Spain, and Portugal, for upholding the cause of constitutional government in the two latter countries, and a noted achievement of his was the quadruple alliance with the northern Powers to preserve the integrity of the Turkish empire. In the various difficult questions of public policy which the revolutionary movements of 1848-9 involved, he exhibited his favourite policy of lending the moral weight of England's opinion to struggling nationalities, but at the same time refusing any practical assistance. In 1850 his policy in regard to Greece was condemned by a deliberate vote of the Peers, but the vote of the House of Commons was in his favour. An association of Liberals presented Lady Palmerston with his portrait, and a great banquet at the Reform Club celebrated his victory. A little later, however, many of the politicians referred to experienced a bitter disappointment. In 1851 he hastened to express to Louis Napoleon his approbation of the coup-d'état, and such a forfeiture of general expectation precipitated his retirement from the Foreign Office. He resigned the seals in February, 1851. Being appointed Home Secretary in the Aberdeen Ministry in 1852, his prompt and effective action in every part of his charge was a

relief and a comfort to the whole kingdom. In February, 1855, he was called upon to form the Ministry by which the Russian War was brought to a close. In 1857 he dispatched an army to suppress the mutiny in India, and at the same time set on foot the series of military operations in China which led to the important treaty of 1858. His Government was overthrown in February, 1858, for introducing the "Conspiracy to Murder" Bill, shortly after Orsini's attempt on the life of the Emperor. In June of the succeeding year he again formed a Ministry, which has remained in power ever since. In 1861 he was appointed Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports and Constable of Dover Castle. In 1862 he was elected Lord Rector of Glasgow, and in 1863 he was chosen Master of the Trinity House.

The deceased Viscount married, Dec. 16, 1839, the Dowager Countess Cowper, daughter of the first Viscount Melbourne; but, the union being without issue, the title expires with him. His long life of perpetual activity was enjoyed with a relish which is itself always a source of popularity and a propitiation of human affection.

#### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN and the Royal family will, it is understood, return to Windsor Castle from Scotland on or about the 1st of November. The death of Lord Palmerston, however, may perhaps alter this arrangement.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES are on a visit to the Duke of Roxburghe at Floors Castle, near Kelso.

THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA are expected to leave Berlin for England in a few days. They are to pay a visit of some three weeks' duration to our Royal family.

THE MARQUIS OF BATH has repudiated all connection with or interest in the Confederate Loan.

THE RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE, retiring Rector of Edinburgh University, will deliver his valedictory address on the 3rd of November.

THE NAME OF THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL has been struck off the register of voters for Middlesex.

COUNT F. LAGRANGE has settled £400 a year for life on Henry Grimshaw, the successful rider of Gladiateur.

MDLLE. PATTI is engaged for ten representations at Homburg, during the season of 1866, at 5000f. a night.

PRESIDENT GEFRAUDH OF HAYTI has recently bought from the United States the gun-boat Galatea, which he will add to his little navy.

MR. GEORGE HUDSON, once so well known as the "Railway King," was last week liberated from York Castle, where he had been detained since the general election.

THE EARL OF STAMFORD having definitively determined to retire from the turf, his entire stud, with the exception of the brood mares, will shortly be disposed of.

THE CATTLE DISEASE is reported to have broken out in Portugal.

TWENTY-FIVE PLANTERS are said to be under arrest at Vicksburg, all charged with either maltreating or killing their former slaves.

NEARLY 500 post-offices have been reopened in the Southern States since May last.

VINES IN BELGIUM have this year yielded a second crop, and cherry, pear, peach, and apricot trees are in blossom.

MR. MONTAGU CHAMBERS, who was defeated at the recent election for Bedford, had a testimonial presented to him, on Tuesday, by the Liberal electors of that place.

LORD LYONS, the new English Ambassador to the Porte, arrived at Constantinople last week; and his predecessor, Sir Henry Bulwer, was about to leave.

SIR HARRY PARKES has entered upon his diplomatic duties in Japan. An official residence was granted to him at Jeddo after some opposition.

A BANFFSHIRE GAMEKEEPER recently shot, with one barrel of his gun, five grouse out of a large covey, and subsequently, with both barrels, brought down twelve from another.

ANOTHER GREAT FIRE has occurred in Constantinople, which destroyed or seriously damaged nearly a thousand houses and shops.

PROFESSOR DAVID MASSON, of University College, London, has been appointed to the chair of rhetoric in the University of Edinburgh, vacant by the death of the late Professor Ayton.

MR. JUSTICE CROMPTON, who has been seriously ill, is now better. As Term approaches, there are rumours that several of the learned Judges will shortly resign, but at present nothing is known in the "legal circles" of the resignations.

A SUBSCRIPTION has been set on foot for the erection of a memorial to Sir Joshua Reynolds in his native town of Plymton, Devon. The contemplated form of the memorial is a stained-glass window in the church.

A FINE SOLAR SPOT is at present distinctly visible with the naked eye, properly defended by a piece of coloured glass. A delicate train of small spots, visible with a small telescope, follows the large one.

MISS TRAVERS, the heroine of the actions against Sir William and Lady Wilde, is appealing to the Bankruptcy Court to be relieved from the costs of her second trial.

A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER IN MISSOURI was so tall that, when he first appeared on parade, the colonel ordered him to "get off that stump." He was 7 ft. high, and went through the war without a scratch.

MME. CELESTE is still at the Broadway, New York, and, as the Woman in Red and the French Spy, is nightly applauded. The Knaves are having a triumph in Boston, where they are playing a four weeks' engagement.

THE WIFE OF A WORKMAN AT BREST, having been abused by her husband, took three of her children by a former marriage to a pond, flung them in, and then followed them; they were all drowned.

THE INFERIOR ROMAN CLERGY, who are paid for saying masses for the dead, are about to refuse continuing their task unless they receive a more liberal rate of payment, or, in other words, think of having recourse to the vulgar expedient of a strike.

TEN THOUSAND APPLICATIONS for such vacancies as may occur in the 200 places in the Treasury Department at Washington have already been received and filed away carefully for future reference. As no office-holders and few die, there is very little chance for the army of aspirants.

A FARMER, residing near Londonderry, recently aroused his neighbours in the night to defend their farms from an attack of Fenians, rushed out with them, discharged his piece at the advancing mass, and discovered too late that he had shot one of his best cows, which had escaped from the field and returned with some companions to the homestead.

SOME TIME AGO the shopkeepers of Warsaw were ordered to hang out signs in the Russian language in addition to the Polish ones, which they might retain if they chose. They have now been informed by a decree of the General in command of the police that the many orthographical mistakes occurring in the epitome of their trades in Russ must be amended, or they will be liable to be fined.

ANOTHER ECCENTRIC SHIP is about to be built. The invention consists in supporting a car or vessel above the water level on axles or shafts passing through rotary hollow drums or cylinders, which are made to revolve on their axles by steam or other motive power. This car or vessel, constructed to carry passengers and freight, is supported by the buoyancy of the drums, and kept suspended above the water level.

A MEETING of masters and men engaged in the Staffordshire iron trade was held on Saturday, when seventeen men deputed from the different works of the district visited the Wolverhampton masters and held a conference, which lasted three hours. Masters and men, at the close of the conference, pledged themselves to give their best consideration to some plan whereby strikes and lock-outs should in future be avoided.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF SEWERS of the city of London are considering the propriety of abolishing slaughter-houses in the City. Dr. Letheby reports that, under the most advantageous circumstances, the slaughter-houses must be a nuisance, and therefore recommends their removal. At the meeting of the commissioners on Tuesday the matter was under consideration, and, after some discussion, a report on the subject was referred back to the committee from which it emanated.

THE CABINET.—Under the present painful circumstances it will at once become necessary for the Queen to appoint a successor to the late lamented Viscount Palmerston. We need hardly point out that Lord Russell, having been already Prime Minister, will be sent for by her Majesty. If the noble Earl accepts the premiership, it is probable that the Earl of Clarendon will be intrusted with the duties of the Foreign Office, which he formerly discharged under the Administration of Lord Aberdeen. In the case of Lord Russell electing to retain the Foreign Office, the premiership might be intrusted to Lord Granville or Lord Clarendon. But we think that, in all probability, Lord Russell will accept the all-important post now vacant. In any case, Mr. Gladstone succeeds to the leadership of the House of Commons.—*Morning Post of Thursday.*

METROPOLITAN TOLLS.—From Wednesday all the turnpike-gates and toll-bars within the metropolitan district are abolished. The event was signalled on Tuesday night, at the ghostly hour of twelve o'clock, by a sort of cabman's demonstration. The public have as much reason to congratulate themselves as "the cabbies;" and in after years the only matter of surprise will be that these obstructions to the public traffic were allowed to exist so long.

## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

DATH, with whom Lord Palmerston has so often bravely struggled during the last two years, has seized his victim at last, and borne him away behind the dark curtain. This event, though, can surprise nobody; and to his immediate friends it is nothing like so sudden as it appears to the public. The fact is that, though the record, which was supposed to receive its information from a nobb kinsman of the Premier, asserted that his Lordship had quite recovered from his attack of the gout, he had never perfectly recovered a fortnight ago, by a member of Parliament who was on terms of intimacy with the noble Lord, that, in all probability, he would never enter, and certainly not lead, the House again. I did not give your readers this intelligence because it was not told me to be published; and, moreover, I knew, and have long known, that his Lordship and his family never liked to see in the papers reference to his failing health. Lord Palmerston, apart from the political influence which he has exercised and his great talents, was one of the most remarkable statesmen we or any other nation has ever had. He has long been the father of the House. He came first into Parliament in 1807, but he was returned in 1806, though he did not take his seat. And, as this is an incident noticed by none of his biographers, I will tell you how it happened. His Lordship was a candidate for Horsham. The candidates and the numbers polled were L. P. Jones, 44; F. G. Wilder, 44; Lord Fitzharris, 29; Lord Palmerston, 29. On the poll, then, Lord Palmerston was defeated; but, as Palmerston and Fitzharris declared that the votes given to their opponents were illegal votes, the bailiffs determined to make a double return. A Committee of the House of Commons, however, declared that the two first-named gentlemen were duly elected. In the same year his Lordship was an unsuccessful candidate for the University of Cambridge, and again in 1807; and in that year he first entered the house as member for Newport in the Isle of Wight, which was then a mere rotten borough. Lord Palmerston has, then, been in Parliament fifty-eight years. This is one remarkable fact in his history; a second is that he has been a Minister of the Crown, as I reckon, about forty-six years; a third is that he was the oldest Prime Minister that we have ever had; and, lastly, he has led the House of Commons throughout the longest Parliament that we have had since the Reform Bill was passed.

It is too early to speculate about the changes which will result from the death of the Premier. My opinion is that they will not be so important as some of the gossips seem to think. It is fortunate for the Government that Lord Palmerston lived till after the general election, for there can be no doubt that his name was a tower of strength to them in that contest.

The *Observer* announces that Parliament will not meet until the third week in January. About three weeks ago I said, "My own opinion is that the Government at present means to summon Parliament in the third week in January." I, though, had my signs and the opinions of those most likely to know whence to draw my conclusions. The *Observer*, I suspect, speaks with authority. There will be an immense deal of hard Committee-work to be done next Session. At least 500 private bills will have to be considered, and some of the railway bills will be very heavy. Moreover, in addition to Committees on private bills, there will be, I am told, more than an average number of election petitions referred to Committees. Mr. Ferrand's seat for Devonport is to be assailed. He defeated Mr. Brassey by 1290 to 1279. This majority is small, and his opponent is enormously rich. Mr. Ferrand, therefore, I think, is by no means safe. It is, though, unlikely that Mr. Brassey will secure the seat by award of the Committee. I do not know that he asks for it; probably he only seeks to get the election annulled. But, however this may be, the cost will be great to Mr. Ferrand, unless the Conservative party come to his help, which it certainly ought to do, considering what a redoubtable champion it has had in the hon. gentleman. In 1859 he contested Devonport, unsuccessfully, three times. In 1863 he fought Sir Frederick Grey, a Lord of the Admiralty, and won; and again, as we have seen, he gained a victory in 1865, and now a costly battle in Committee is before him. If there be a balance in the Carlton treasury, or if not, Mr. Ferrand certainly ought to have assistance from the Conservative party.

So, gentlemen of the House of Commons, you may make up your minds that you will have no easy time of it. Every man of you, except such as may obtain exemption on account of age or office, will be pressed to serve in Committee; and fortunate will the man be who gets an easy group. The House of Commons has been called the finest club in England; but if the new members enter the house under the illusion that it is a mere lounging club, at which they may gossip or read in the library and go and come as they please, they will soon have this illusion dispelled. This first Session many of them will probably discover that they have hard work as well as honour. Many of the members like it, though. There is a story told of a member well known for his fondness for Committee work that he expressed his regret when he heard, after a severe fight which had lasted some weeks, that the opposition to the bill was withdrawn, "because the business was getting so interesting."

Complaints have been made of late years that the Estimates have not been laid upon the table early enough. The late Sir Henry Willoughby never failed to utter a growl or two on the subject. Her Majesty's Government have determined, if possible, to remove the cause of complaint; and to this end have sent a circular round to all the departments urging the chiefs thereof to get the Estimates ready earlier than usual.

It is too soon yet to surmise what taxes the Chancellor of the Exchequer will lift off the shoulders of her Majesty's lieges, if he should have a surplus, as I suppose he will; but a little bird has piped in my ear that he feels strongly disposed to take off, or at least reduce, the duty on omnibuses. The London General Omnibus Company, it is said, pays £50,000 a year to the Government. It is a heavy sum, and perhaps but for this burden the company would be able to furnish the public with more commodious and cleaner conveyances. If this be so, by all means, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, abolish the tax on our London omnibuses, for, save those handsome three-horse carriages, which we owe to a Manchester man, who imported them into the metropolis in the last exhibition year, they all sadly need improvement.

A petition is to be presented by certain electors of Woodstock to the House of Commons, calling the attention of the Honourable House to the unconstitutional interference of his Grace the Duke of Marlborough at the late election; and I suppose that the said petition will pray the House to take action in the matter. But how is this to be done? And, if action be taken, what will be the result? If the petition be simply presented, the House will order "that it do lie upon the table;" whereupon the clerk will thrust it into a bag, which bag will be carried to the Journal Office, and the House and the public will hear no more of it. It is competent, though, for any member to move that the petition be printed in the votes, and to raise a discussion thereon; and if this be done, and the petition be printed accordingly, and no further steps be taken, the only result will be that members may read the petition at leisure. But some member may move that the House do appoint a Select Committee, and a Committee may be appointed, and may report that the Duke did interfere unconstitutionally at the said election, and, by so doing, was guilty of violating a resolution of the House, which declares that it is "a high infringement of the liberties and privileges of the Commons of the United Kingdom for any Lord in Parliament, or other Peer or Prelate, to concern himself in the election of members to serve for the Commons in Parliament." And, if the Committee should thus report, what will happen then? Well, I have looked into the books and cannot find that any steps can be taken further than receiving the report and recording the reception of it in the journals of the House. The Commons have clearly no power to punish those who are guilty of this high infringement; and, as to the Upper House, my Lords have never recognised the aforesaid resolution. There is, however, still another process. The electors of Woodstock may petition against the return, and plead before Committee that, in consequence of the interference of the noble Duke, the election

ought to be declared void. The process, however, would cost a deal of money; and I suspect that the petitioners would find it very difficult to prove their case. In short, I fear that the aggrieved electors will find that there is no redress of their grievance to be obtained. The resolution of the House of Commons looks very formidable; but, when it comes to be examined, it is found to be like an old honeycombed cannon, dangerous only to those who attempt to fire it. But why should these Woodstock people fill the air with their shriekings? Has not the Duke of Marlborough always returned whomsoever it pleased him to return? Why fret and fume and gnaw your chains, gentlemen? Better bear them patiently till a Reform Bill shall release you.

On Monday last a railway was opened from Weymouth to Portland, thus connecting this curious outlying isle or peninsula with the metropolis. It is somewhat surprising that the importance of this event has been entirely overlooked by our journals. This appears the more strange in the face of the singular fact that, out of doors or in doors, the Londoner can scarcely turn his head without beholding something from Portland, in the form of window-sills, copings, hearth-flags, door-steps, or pavement. The coast of Portland swarms with fish—much of it of kinds nearly unknown on London tables, but none the less esculent and delicious. Perhaps the new line of rail and the traffic which it must induce may tend to the social amelioration of Portland; and there is certainly occasion for such a result. Moreover, Portland has a breakwater, which is one of the wonders of the world, in a vast bay which only requires a decent pier or two to render it a busy harbour, and to spare myriads of heavily-laden vessels the dangers and delay of sailing around the southern coast, past the difficult navigation of the waters off Beechey Head and the North Foreland, into the port of London. But I am exceeding the limits of gossip, and must conclude by commanding this most important subject to more serious pens, and by predicting confidently that the opening of these few miles of railway along Chesil Beach will prove the commencement of greater changes than have been wrought by any line of like length throughout all Britain.

There is a row among the publishers over "Artemus Ward." Mr. J. C. Hotten, who is the London publisher of Ward's "Travels among the Mormons," &c., made an application to the Court of Chancery for an injunction to restrain Mr. S. O. Beeton from publishing the American author's previous volume, "Artemus Ward: His Book." This application has been refused, and now Mr. Beeton has commenced proceedings to recover damages for the injury he has sustained from certain trade notices and advertisements issued by Mr. Hotten. So there is a very pretty quarrel. For my part, I don't think the books in question worth the row that is being made about them. By-the-by, I notice that Mr. Beeton is guilty of a rather disingenuous act in connection with this matter. In a circular he has issued to the trade he quotes a notice of these American books which appeared in the last Number of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES, but omits a clause in one sentence in which you mention the author of the "Biglow Papers" before Artemus Ward. This omission makes you rank Ward immediately after Haliburton in point of merit, whereas you actually gave that place to Biglow. This is scarcely fair. Mr. Beeton may prefer Ward's writings to those of Biglow, and be inclined to give him the *pas* accordingly; but he has no right to garble a critic's remarks.

The evenings are drawing in, and it behoves all careful folk to warn their servants, to bid them have a suspicion of stray knocks, and to look after the umbrellas in the stand and the great-coats hung up in the hall, when they are "answering the door." The dodges of young men of "clean but poor" appearance are of infinite variety; and the family of "Mr. Job Trotter"—the Mr. Job Trotter who immortalised himself by not only "doing" Mr. Pickwick but by absolutely getting over the astute Samuel Weller—is numerous, though not respectable. The other day a young man of the well-brushed but shabby sort, napless but honest—oh! so honest!—was ushered into the study of a friend of mine (I should tell you that my friend's house is close to a chapel of ease). "What may your business be?" asked my friend. "Sir," said the young man, who was threadbare but honest—oh! so honest!—"the other day I was at Wandsworth—ahem! yes, Sir—and, as I was passing by such a place I heard three men, who appeared to be navigators, and they were talking, Sir, about the chapel next door, and one of them said, 'It must be seen to, as I know the plate is valuable, and we can get in by a window.' Yes, Sir, and more conversation of the same sort went on, so that I could see that they meant to rob the chapel; so I thought I'd let you know, Sir, living next door, as you do; yes, Sir." My friend said, "Very proper; but you ought to make this known to the Reverend Mr. Such-a-one, the Incumbent: he lives at Camberwell." "I would go to him, Sir, at once," said the young man who was poor but honest; "but—ahem! I have not the means of paying the railway fare," &c. My friend gave the good young man eighteenpence for his fare, and, three days after heard of him at a police court. The good young man was always "warning" people, and, in the language of the heap serials, "the myrmidons of the law ha tracked him."

It must be a terrible thing to be a celebrity, and I put it to that numerous body of persons who are never likely to be celebrated for anything, how grateful they ought to be for the annoyances they escape. Not that I am about to say anything about the penalties of greatness, but only want to give you an anecdote, which, if true, is strange, and if not true is funny. A very raw Yorkshireman lately came to town to see General Tom Thumb, his wife, family, &c. He arrived late on the night of the very day that General T. T., his wife, family, &c., had held their last levee. The Yorkshireman was in despair. He had travelled all the way from Roseberry Topping to see General Tom Thumb, and he could not endure his disappointment. Luckily, he had a letter of introduction to the editor of a London newspaper. He delivered the letter, and prayed the editor, who, of course, as an editor was all-powerful, to get him a *private* interview with the General. The editor, anxious to get rid of the young man, pacified him by telling him that he would use his best endeavours. The editor left his house, and on his way to his office met Mr. Paul Bedford, to whom he related the Yorkshireman's embarrassment. Paul took the editor by the button-hole, and said, "Dear boy—dear boy, bring him to see me. I'll be General Tom Thumb!" The editor saw the joke and sent the Yorkshireman to Mr. Paul Bedford's house. "Is General Tom Thumb at home?" asked the Yorkshireman. "Yes, Sir," said the servant, who immediately ushered him into the portly presence. The Yorkshireman looked on Mr. Paul Bedford, and Mr. Paul Bedford returned his gaze. "I beg your pardon!" said the countryman; "there is some mistake. I wished to see General Tom Thumb." "I am General Tom Thumb!" said Paul, blandly. "You?" cried the astonished Yorkshireman. "Me! Sit down—sit down, dear boy; and take a glass of wine." "It is a swindle—a robbery—a do—an imposition!" roared the countryman. "What is?" asked Paul innocently. "You are!" cried the Yorkshireman. "The bills say you are only two feet something high—that you only weigh seventeen pounds." "No more I do," said Paul. "in public; but I am in private here, at home, and taking my ease!" "And—and your wife and baby?" stammered Roseberry Topping. "Just now they are out," was the reply, "and, therefore, of the size and weight described in the programmes. No one knows what we public characters go through in our anxiety to gratify our audiences. You see, during our levées, we suffer so much *from compression* that we are obliged to resort to these means to restore the natural balance."

## THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The ST. JAMES'S opened, on Saturday last, with the farce of "Love's Labyrinth;" a new drama, called "Caught in the Toils;" and Mr. Morton's farce of "A Thumping Legacy." "Caught in the Toils" is an adaptation, by Mr. John Brougham, of Miss Braddon's popular novel of "Only a Clod." The story is so well known that it need not be repeated; but, even if it were essential that the plot of the drama should be described, I think it would be found a difficult task. If the new adaptation be not a happy one—and it is not—the acting is capital. *Place aux dames!* Miss

Herbert plays Julia Desmond with what I will be bold to call a four-and-twenty-Lady-Audley power, with all the fascination of the boa and the spring of the cobra. She is as polished and deadly as an oiled rifle-bullet, and the sooner some author or translator ("It is the same thing," as Mr. Pecksniff remarked of the one-eyed calendar and the almanack) finds a part really worthy of her great abilities the better. But I must reluctantly leave Miss Herbert, on whose acting I should like to write a large volume, and speak of the rest of the dramatis persona. *Place aux dames* again. Miss Wentworth is graceful and tender as the deserted Susan; Miss Collinson is a very gorgeous heiress; and, as the gushing daughter of the market-gardener millionaire, Miss Bufton is very jolly; Mrs. Frank Matthews plays a *ballet-girl!* good-hearted, and out of an engagement—need more be said? Mr. Frank Matthews, as the enriched gardener, exploits the geniality which has always made him so welcome to his audience; and Mr. Walter Lacy, who plays what has been intended for the hero of the piece, acts agreeably, although with more action and demonstration than is necessary in a piece where the characters are clad in coat and trousers. Mr. Belton and Mr. Charles play two rascally, heartless brothers—the most amusing personages in the play—very well indeed; and the scenery is tastefully arranged, with a presence of furniture and an absence of the lime-light highly creditable in these days of Indian English landscapes, emerald-green moonlights, and transparent topaz twilights.

At the PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE (which is the prettiest and snugliest theatre in all London) a new and original farce was produced on Monday. Mr. John Biffles, a retired and "model" Englishman, in the fulness of his heart and hospitality places a placard in his dining-room window, inviting "*les étrangers* on tout le monde," as he calls them, to dinner and lodging "*gratuitement*." His wife (Miss Larkins) and daughter (Miss Weston), not altogether approving of their establishment being turned into a lodging-house, object, and call to their aid Fred Hallibut (Mr. Sidney Bancroft), Miss Biffles's lover, who gets a number of his friends to personate Turks, Greeks, Chinese, &c., &c., whilst Mr. Hallibut himself appears as the Chevalier de Brouillard, and, after managing to borrow £100, decamps with the spoons and other valuables. This, together with the violent conduct of the supposed foreigners, who quarrel and want to fight, both among themselves and with Biffles, so thoroughly disenchants the latter that, when Hallibut discloses the plot, he is glad enough to remove his invitation from the window. There are some funny situations in the piece, which, by-the-way, is called "*Dinner for Nothing*," and is the work of Mr. C. S. Cheltman. Mr. Clarke, upon whose shoulders the whole piece rested, was extremely good, and his make-up admirable. Whatever part may be intrusted to this excellent actor is sure to be well and efficiently carried out. Miss Larkins as Mrs. Biffles, and Miss Weston as the daughter, were also good. Mr. Sidney Bancroft made a capital Frenchman, and Mr. Montgomery a characteristic German. Mr. Tindale, as a Japanese, deserves a word of praise; and so does Mr. Hare, who, as a jealous and bloodthirsty Italian, was extremely funny.

Mr. Arthur Sketchley is about to fulfil a series of provincial engagements, after which he returns to the Egyptian Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul's Musical, Comic, and Fanciful Entertainment is now given nightly, with great success at the EGYPTIAN HALL, in the same room in which Mr. Sketchley gave "*Paris Portrayed*" and "*Mrs. Brown*." The *salle* is in the same state as regards the "auditorium" as when that gentleman left it. The platform has been very tastefully and elegantly decorated with lace, flowers, and ferns. A lady presides at the piano, whose touch alone is sufficient evidence of her musical accomplishments. We were much obliged to her for playing, during what we suppose must be called the *entr'actes*, selections from the various operas—for they are *operas*—of Offenbach. "*Le Financier et le Savetier*," "*Croque-fer*," "*L'Orphée*," "*Les Circassiens*," and "*La Belle Hélène*." The programme of the entertainment consists of a scene between Miss Laura Dashaway and Mr. Willie Spoonleigh, of the Unprotected Female, of Major Jonathan Bang; Mrs. Howard Paul's tragic lyric of "*The Dream of the Reveller*"; her versatile husband's representation of "*Old Roger Whitelock*"; Jenimer Lobb, a maid-of-all-work with a bad cold and an unfortunate attachment. Mr. Rattleton Cheek, a speculator, inventor, patentee, and ladies' man; Miss Aurelia Gushington, a young lady fond of moonlight and Byron, whose maidenly susceptibilities have been aroused by a foreign Count, who turns out to be a victim to kleptomania and the police; "*Poor Staley Mildew*," a dilapidated weakling; and the living photograph of Mr. Sims Reeves. As the majority of these impersonations have been already accepted by the public, they need no comment. The songs are numerous—"Bright Chanticleer," "*The Plaint of Miss Singleheart*," "*Over the Snow*," "*When George the Third was King*," "*When I lived out in Clapham-road*," "*The Modern Ladies-Man*," "*The Foreign Count*," and "*Bother the Flies!*." The excellence of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul's entertainment is, as we have already said, so completely established in the favour of the public, that it needs no detailed description. We should, however, fail in our duty, did we not point out the marvellous ability, dramatic and vocal, exhibited by Mrs. Paul in the song of "*The Dream of the Reveller*." It is a creation of the very highest art, and the fixed silence of the audience until the song is concluded, when they make up for their quietude by enthusiastic applause, is sufficient proof of the power of the artist over her hearers. Mrs. Paul has a rare and extraordinary genius, and the tone of tragedy, after the assumption of the commonplace vulgarities of a servant-wench, startled the spectators as much as a lime-lighted sensation-scene, with effects registered and played at a theatre. The "*Dream of the Reveller*" is a most remarkable rendering of a somewhat commonplace song, and will be one of "the things to see and hear" for Londoners and country cousins for many nights to come.

BETHLEHEM HOSPITAL.—Among the charities of which the Charity Commissioners have recently obtained a special account is this great hospital, which stretches across so large a span in what were once St. George's-fields, but now a part of busy London. Bethlehem comprises a foundation applicable to the general purposes of the hospital, and, in fact, devoted to the treatment of patients deemed curable, and a foundation for the maintenance of incurable lunatics. The department for criminal lunatics, maintained by the Government, is no longer required, a State asylum at Broadmoor having been provided. The estates and other endowments of Bethlehem produce a gross income of £18,000 or £20,000 a year, a third of which comes from estates in Lincolnshire, given, in 1729, by E. Barkham for the maintenance of incurable lunatics. Mr. F. O. Martin, who has made the inquiry into the affairs of Bethlehem, submits that, as incurable lunatics are now provided for by county asylums, the Lincolnshire estates should be transferred to the general fund. He has to state that there have been times, and not very remote, when the management of Bethlehem has not been altogether creditable to the aldermen, common councilmen, and nomination governors bearing rule over it. The tavern bills he pronounces "not justifiable." In the period from 1817 to 1836 the Lincolnshire rental yielded £105,673, and only £32,110 found its way to the coffers of the hospital; but the expenses of the seafarers and of the estate in general have now very greatly diminished. The "arrangement" made on the discovery of the embezzlement practised by the former receiver, Mr. Hudson, has a very ugly look. Mr. Hudson was also prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and when he absconded the Treasury seems to have made some demur to the payment of his pension under the Act of Parliament. But a receipt was produced, signed by the treasurer of the hospital, for £3000, agreed to be received in discharge of all demands, and the pension of £2000 a year was then ordered to be paid to Mr. Hudson. Mr. Martin is able, however, to report that no one can fail to be struck with the great improvements which have been made in the management of the hospital. It is now, he says, under the ordinary jurisdiction of the Commissioners in Lunacy, and regularly inspected by them. In 1841 only 23·60 per cent of the patients attended chapel on Sunday, and there was a weekly average of 2·64 per cent under restraint; in 1862 55 per cent attended chapel, and restraint had been for several years unknown. Of the 115 curable patients in the hospital in 1862, only eight were unemployed; and of the sixty-one incurables, twenty-four. The cost per head of the patients appears to have increased, but the increase may be well accounted for by the rise in the price of provisions and other articles, and the more liberal arrangements for the comfort of the patients. The cost of maintenance, furniture, and clothing was rather over £36 per head in 1862. For admission to the hospital preference is given to patients of the educated classes, to secure accommodation for whom no patient is received who is a proper object for admission into a county lunatic asylum.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1865.

## COMMERCIAL ANOMALIES.

THERE are many very anomalous things in the business system of this country. Some of these have grown up naturally; but for others it is difficult to account or to understand. We are made to buy one article, which we don't want, in order to enable venders to supply us with another which we do require; the sale of two or more things are joined together, that a loss upon one may be compensated by profit upon another; one class of goods is charged a price higher than it is worth in order that the dealer may recoup himself for losses on others which he sells at less than their value; and one man follows two avocations, the losses sustained in one character being balanced by gains in the other. To put it figuratively, one horse is overloaded in order that another, perfectly able to bear its own burden, may go lightly. This, as we have said, is a very anomalous system of doing business, and stands greatly in need of reform. Let us point out a few instances of what we mean.

Commercial travellers have now become an important portion of the migratory public. They are constantly scouring the country in pursuit of their business, and, as they must lodge by the way somewhere, their custom is of value to hotel-keepers, who appropriate rooms to their exclusive use, and have a special tariff of charges applicable only to them. It is, for instance, an understood thing that dinner in the "commercial room" shall not be charged more than two shillings a head. But this sum does not pay the landlord for the dinner he provides, and so a system has grown up of charging each guest a pint of wine, whether he wants it and drinks or not. This, says mine host, is the only source of profit he has on the "commercials." But, then, the non-wine-drinking traveller naturally objects to paying for what he does not want in order to compensate the landlord for loss upon the dinner. This we regard as simply an anomaly, originating, no doubt, in the anxiety of the shrewd men who usually frequent commercial rooms to guard themselves against the exactions of landlords. But the arrangement pleases no party, and will have to be changed. Diners must pay a fair price for their dinners, and wine-drinking must be left to the option of the guest. So far as the commercials are concerned, we dare say they are pretty well able to take care of themselves; but their case is made an excuse for overcharging the general public. Non-commercial travellers who sojourn at inns do not get their dinners for two shillings a head; but they are expected to take wine "for the good of the house" as well as genuine "commercial gents." This is another anomaly. One horse is made to bear another's burden: one class of customers must make good losses sustained by a totally different one. The commercial travellers are raising a cry against the system practised against them. We think non-commercials have much greater reason to complain.

Again, grocers are in the habit, as they say, of selling sugar at a losing price, and, to compensate this, they charge an extra profit upon tea. This, too, is anomalous. Why should not sugar defray its own share of the costs and profits of trade? and why should tea be saddled with the deficiency? Some people do not drink tea. They prefer chocolate, or cocoa, or coffee; but they want sugar to sweeten their beverages. Why should the tea-drinker have to make good the loss on the coffee-drinker's sugar? This is neither just nor necessary. Each article a man sells should bear a fair proportion of the profits he desires to make in his trade.

Once more. Publicans tell us that they make little or no profit on beer, but must look to pay themselves out of their wine and spirit trade. Anomalous again—if true. The beer-drinker has no right to assuage his thirst at the expense of the consumer of wines and spirits. But there is, perhaps, a worse feature in the matter than even this. Profits must be had, or business can't go on; and we fear profits are often made by adulterating wines, spirits, beer, and all. That adulteration is largely practised we do know; analytical reports have settled that point. But may not traders have been led into the habit of falsifying their goods to compensate themselves for this supposed system of selling certain articles at a loss? The beer is adulterated to make it pay;

the wines are also adulterated to make the beer pay. The publican does a little mixing here, and a little there; forgetting, of course, that he has gone over each article in turn, and "made his profit" upon each. We may trust him to protect himself, and to guard spirits from the spoliations of beer. But who is to protect the public from the publican? We are at his mercy, whether our liquor be beer, wine, or spirits.

Yet once again. Certain individuals ostensibly practise one calling, under cover of which they pursue another. Many tradesmen—such as tailors, bootmakers, outfitters, and so on—are money-lenders as well; and the losses they sustain in the one capacity they make good in the other. But then all who purchase clothes from a fashionable tailor, or boots from a fashionable son of Crispin, are not borrowers of money, and ought not to be charged a percentage to make up for losses on bad bills. We don't object to a man lending money at any rate of interest he can get: to deal in money is as legitimate an avocation as to vend jewellery, or tea, or cheese, or bread. But we do object to two totally different sorts of trade being mixed up together, because in that case one class of customers must suffer for others. This is an anomaly which should be rectified. And other very singular anomalies spring up out of the system. We have heard of a certain "wood merchant" in Dublin whose whole stock of timber consisted of one old oak stump, which was never removed from his yard, but which figured in every transaction in which he was engaged. Mr. Lever, in his "Jack Hinton," tells a similar story of a dashing Captain, who, as part of the proceeds of a "little bill," became the possessor of certain barrels of red herrings, for which, of course, he had no possible use, and which at one time or other had been the property of half the young "bloods" of the Irish metropolis. These are anomalies which had their origin in other anomalies. We once had severe laws against usury; and these laws, being themselves anomalous, gave rise to the anomaly of a man pretending to sell a log of wood or a barrel of herrings when, in reality, he was selling money.

What is the use of preserving all these absurdities in commerce? Why can't a man really follow the trade he pretends to follow? Why can't an article be sold for what it really is? And why can't every article of traffic bear its fair proportion of the vendor's profit? It would surely be better to carry on business in an open and above-board fashion than to have recourse to all these shams and pretences. All things—men included—should be known for what they are. Wherever there is a false appearance, there is robbery or the probability of it. Let us get rid of all these anomalies and shams in trade, and, we may depend upon it, the world will wag on more comfortably and harmoniously afterwards.

## DEATH OF LORD PALMERSTON.

WE deeply regret to state that Viscount Palmerston died on Wednesday morning, at a quarter to eleven, at Brocket Hall, Hertfordshire. The noble Lord had only partially recovered from his recent attack of gout, when he caught a cold; but from this, too, he was believed to be rallying, when a relapse occurred, and he gradually sank.

The Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury; the Right Hon. William Cowper, M.P.; and Viscountess Jocelyn were staying with Lady Palmerston, at Brocket Hall, when the melancholy event occurred.

Henry John Temple, known since the age of eighteen as Lord Viscount Palmerston, was born, in October, 1784, at the family seat of Broadlands, Hants. The peerage is Irish, and his father was the second Viscount. The third—the deceased Premier—was early sent to Harrow, where Dr. Drury was Head Master. He was among the young men, of all politics, who were attracted to Edinburgh at the opening of the century by the fame of Dugald Stewart; and he spent three years under him before going to Cambridge. He had just taken his degree at Cambridge, and come of age, when he was brought forward to represent the University. He lost his election to Lord Henry Petty, the late Lord Lansdowne. He took his seat in Parliament for Bletchingley at Christmas, 1806, when affairs were in such a state that no recess could be allowed. He ranged himself with the Ministerialists, and was understood to be on the eve of office; and he was made one of the Lords of the Admiralty in 1807, under the Portland Administration. In two years more he was Secretary at War; and in 1811 obtained his desire to represent his University. He was then only seven-and-twenty. For nineteen years after he filled the office of Secretary at War—that is, till the breaking up of the Wellington Cabinet, in 1828. During the first two Administrations comprised within this period he was a Tory, as a matter of course, under Mr. Perceval and Lord Liverpool; but, holding the same office in all the three Administrations of 1827, his Toryism was clearly giving way. He had always been an advocate for Catholic emancipation, with Canning; and he was becoming a free trader, with Huskisson. With the rest of the Canningites—Lord Dudley, Lord Melbourne, and Lord Glenelg—he went out when Huskisson resigned.

When he supported Lord John Russell's Reform Bill, in 1831, Cambridge rejected him, as Oxford had dismissed Peel. He had sat for Cambridge two-and-twenty years, and no doubt felt the mortification of his loss. In 1831 he was returned for Bletchingley. From 1832 to 1834 he represented South Hants, and since 1835 he has been regularly returned to Parliament by the electors of Tiverton. In 1830 Lord Palmerston became Foreign Secretary, the capacity in which he will be remembered best at home and wholly abroad. He held the office for eleven years, with the exception of the five months of the Peel Ministry in 1834-5. From 1841 to 1846 he was out of office, and then returned to the Foreign Office for five years. He was prominent in effecting the recognition of the independence of Belgium, and in the formation of the quadruple alliance between England, France, Spain, and Portugal, for upholding the cause of constitutional government in the two latter countries, and a noted achievement of his was the quadruple alliance with the northern Powers to preserve the integrity of the Turkish empire. In the various difficult questions of public policy which the revolutionary movements of 1848-9 involved, he exhibited his favourite policy of lending the moral weight of England's opinion to struggling nationalities, but at the same time refusing any practical assistance. In 1850 his policy in regard to Greece was condemned by a deliberate vote of the Peers, but the vote of the House of Commons was in his favour. An association of Liberals presented Lady Palmerston with his portrait, and a great banquet at the Reform Club celebrated his victory. A little later, however, many of the politicians referred to experienced a bitter disappointment. In 1851 he hastened to express to Louis Napoleon his approbation of the coup-d'état, and such a forfeiture of general expectation precipitated his retirement from the Foreign Office. He resigned the seals in February, 1851. Being appointed Home Secretary in the Aberdeen Ministry in 1852, his prompt and effective action in every part of his charge was a

relief and a comfort to the whole kingdom. In February, 1855, he was called upon to form the Ministry by which the Russian War was brought to a close. In 1857 he dispatched an army to suppress the mutiny in India, and at the same time set on foot the series of military operations in China which led to the important treaty ratified in 1860. His Government was overthrown in February, 1858, for introducing the "Conspiracy to Murder" Bill, shortly after Orsini's attempt on the life of the Emperor. In June of the succeeding year he again formed a Ministry, which has remained in power ever since. In 1861 he was appointed Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports and Constable of Dover Castle. In 1862 he was elected Lord Rector of Glasgow, and in 1863 he was chosen Master of the Trinity House.

The deceased Viscount married, Dec. 16, 1839, the Dowager Countess Cowper, daughter of the first Viscount Melbourne; but, the union being without issue, the title expires with him. His long life of perpetual activity was enjoyed with a relish which is itself always a source of popularity and a propitiation of human affection.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN and the Royal family will, it is understood, return to Windsor Castle from Scotland on or about the 1st of November. The death of Lord Palmerston, however, may perhaps alter this arrangement.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES are on a visit to the Duke of Roxburghe at Floors Castle, near Kelso.

THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA are expected to leave Berlin for England in a few days. They are to pay a visit of some three weeks' duration to our Royal family.

THE MARQUIS OF BATH has repudiated all connection with or interest in the Confederate Loan.

THE RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE, retiring Rector of Edinburgh University, will deliver his valedictory address on the 3rd of November.

THE NAME OF THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL has been struck off the register of voters for Middlesex.

COUNT F. LAGRANGE has settled £400 a year for life on Henry Grimshaw, the successful rider of Gladiators.

MIDDLE PATTI is engaged for ten representations at Homburg, during the season of 1866, at 5000r. a night.

PRESIDENT GEFFRARD OF HAYTI has recently bought from the United States the gun-boat Galatea, which he will add to his little navy.

MR. GEORGE HUDSON, once so well known as the "Railway King," was last week liberated from York Castle, where he had been detained since the general election.

THE EARL OF STAMFORD having definitively determined to retire from the turf, his entire stud, with the exception of the brood mares, will shortly be disposed of.

THE CATTLE DISEASE is reported to have broken out in Portugal.

TWENTY-FIVE PLANTERS are said to be under arrest at Vicksburg, all charged with either maltreating or killing their former slaves.

NEARLY 500 post-offices have been reopened in the Southern States since May last.

VINES IN BELGIUM have this year yielded a second crop, and cherry, pear, peach, and apricot trees are in blossom.

MR. MONTAGU CHAMBERS, who was defeated at the recent election for Bedford, had a testimonial presented to him, on Tuesday, by the Liberal electors of that place.

LORD LYONS, the new English Ambassador to the Porte, arrived at Constantinople last week; and his predecessor, Sir Henry Bulwer, was about to leave.

SIR HARRY PARKES has entered upon his diplomatic duties in Japan. An official residence was granted to him at Jeddo after some opposition.

A BANFFSHIRE GAMEKEEPER recently shot, with one barrel of his gun, five grouse out of a large covey, and subsequently, with both barrels, brought down twelve from another.

ANOTHER GREAT FIRE has occurred in Constantinople, which destroyed or seriously damaged nearly a thousand houses and shops.

PROFESSOR DAVID MASSON, of University College, London, has been appointed to the chair of rhetoric in the University of Edinburgh, vacant by the death of the late Professor Ayton.

MR. JUSTICE CROMPTON, who has been seriously ill, is now better. As term approaches, there are rumours that several of the learned Judges will shortly resign, but at present nothing is known in the "legal circles" of the resignations.

A SUBSCRIPTION has been set on foot for the erection of a memorial to Sir Joshua Reynolds in his native town of Plymton, Devon. The contemplated form of the memorial is a stained-glass window in the church.

A FINALE SOLAR SPOT is at present distinctly visible with the naked eye, properly defended by a piece of coloured glass. A delicate train of small spots, visible with a small telescope, follows the large one.

MISS TRAVERS, the heroine of the actions against Sir William and Lady Wilde, is appealing to the Bankruptcy Court to be relieved from the costs of her second trial.

A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER IN MISSOURI was so tall that, when he first appeared on parade, the colonel ordered him to "get off that stump." He was 7 ft. high, and went through the war without a scratch.

MME. CELESTE is still at the Broadway, New York, and, as the Woman in Red and the French Spy, is nightly applauded. The Keans are having a triumph in Boston, where they are playing a four weeks' engagement.

THE WIFE OF A WORKMAN AT BREST, having been abused by her husband, took three of her children by a former marriage to a pond, flung them in, and then followed them; they were all drowned.

THE INFERIOR ROMAN CLERGY, who are paid for saying masses for the dead, are about to refuse continuing their task unless they receive a more liberal rate of payment, or, in other words, think of having recourse to the vulgar expedient of a strike.

TEN THOUSAND APPLICATIONS for such vacancies as may occur in the 2700 places in the Treasury Department at Washington have already been received and filed away carefully for future reference. As no office-holders resign, and few die, there is very little chance for the army of aspirants.

A FARMER, residing near Londonderry, recently aroused his neighbours in the night to defend their farms from an attack of Fenians, rushed out with them, discharged his piece at the advancing mass, and discovered too late that he had shot one of his best cows, which had escaped from the field and returned with some companions to the homestead.

SOME TIME AGO the shopkeepers of Warsaw were ordered to hang out signboards in the Russian language in addition to the Polish ones, which they might retain if they chose. They have now been informed by a decree of the General in command of the police that the many orthographical mistakes occurring in the epitome of their trades in Russ must be amended, or they will be liable to be fined.

ANOTHER ECCENTRIC SHIP is about to be built. The invention consists in supporting a car or vessel above the water level on axles or shafts passing through rotary hollow drums or cylinders, which are made to revolve on their axles by steam or other motive power. This car or vessel, constructed to carry passengers and freight, is supported by the buoyancy of the drums, and kept suspended above the water level.

A MEETING of masters and men engaged in the Staffordshire iron trade was held on Saturday, when seventeen men deputed from the different works of the district visited the Wolverhampton masters and held a conference, which lasted three hours. Masters and men, at the close of the conference, pledged themselves to give their best consideration to some plan whereby strikes and lock-outs should in future be avoided.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF SEWERS of the city of London are considering the propriety of abolishing slaughter-houses in the City. Dr. Letheby reports that, under the most advantageous circumstances, the slaughter-houses must be a nuisance, and therefore recommends their removal. At the meeting of the commissioners on Tuesday the matter was under consideration, and, after some discussion, a report on the subject was referred back to the committee from which it emanated.

THE CABINET.—Under the present painful circumstances it will at once become necessary for the Queen to appoint a successor to the late lamented Viscount Palmerston. We need hardly point out that Lord Russell, having been already Prime Minister, will be sent for by her Majesty. If the noble Earl accepts the premiership, it is probable that the Earl of Clarendon will be intrusted with the duties of the Foreign Office, which he formerly discharged under the Administration of Lord Aberdeen. In the case of Lord Russell electing to retain the Foreign Office, the premiership might be intrusted to Lord Granville or Lord Clarendon. But we think that, in all probability, Lord Russell will accept the all-important post now vacant. In any case, Mr. Gladstone succeeds to the leadership of the House of Commons.—Morning Post of Thursday.

METROPOLITAN TOLLS.—From Wednesday all the turnpike-gates and toll-bars within the metropolitan districts are abolished. The event was signalled on Tuesday night, at the ghostly hour of twelve o'clock, by a sort of cabman's demonstration. The public have as much reason to congratulate themselves as "the cabbies;" and in after years the only matter of surprise will be that these obstructions to the public traffic were allowed to exist so long.

## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

DEATH, with whom Lord Palmerston has so often bravely struggled during the last two years, has seized his victim at last, and borne him away behind the dark curtain. This event, though, can surprise nobody; and to his immediate friends it is nothing like so sudden as it appears to the public. The fact is that, though the *Record*, which was supposed to receive its information from a noble kinsman of the Premier, asserted that his Lordship had quite recovered from his attack of the gout, he had never perfectly rallied. I was informed a fortnight ago, by a member of Parliament who was on terms of intimacy with the noble Lord, that, in all probability, he would never enter, and certainly not lead, the House again. I did not give your readers this intelligence because it was not told me to be published; and, moreover, I knew, and have long known, that his Lordship and his family never liked to see in the papers reference to his failing health. Lord Palmerston, apart from the political influence which he has exercised and his great talents, was one of the most remarkable statesmen we or any other nation has ever had. He has long been the father of the House. He came first into Parliament in 1807, but he was returned in 1806, though he did not take his seat. And, as this is an incident noticed by none of his biographers, I will tell you how it happened. His Lordship was a candidate for Horsham. The candidates and the numbers polled were L. P. Jones, 44; F. G. Wilder, 44; Lord Fitzharris, 29; Lord Palmerston, 29. On the poll, then, Lord Palmerston was defeated; but, as Palmerston and Fitzharris declared that the votes given to their opponents were illegal votes, the bailiffs determined to make a double return. A Committee of the House of Commons, however, declared that the two first-named gentlemen were duly elected. In the same year his Lordship was an unsuccessful candidate for the University of Cambridge, and again in 1807; and in that year he first entered the house as member for Newport in the Isle of Wight, which was then a mere rotten borough. Lord Palmerston has, then, been in Parliament fifty-eight years. This is one remarkable fact in his history; a second is that he has been a Minister of the Crown, as I reckon, about forty-six years; a third is that he was the oldest Prime Minister that we have ever had; and, lastly, he has led the House of Commons throughout the longest Parliament that we have had since the Reform Bill was passed.

It is too early to speculate about the changes which will result from the death of the Premier. My opinion is that they will not be so important as some of the gossip seem to think. It is fortunate for the Government that Lord Palmerston lived till after the general election, for there can be no doubt that his name was a tower of strength to them in that contest.

The *Observer* announces that Parliament will not meet until the third week in January. About three weeks ago I said, "My own opinion is that the Government at present means to summon Parliament in the third week in January." I, though, had my signs and the opinions of those most likely to know whence to draw my conclusions. The *Observer*, I suspect, speaks with authority. There will be an immense deal of hard Committee-work to be done next Session. At least 500 private bills will have to be considered, and some of the railway bills will be very heavy. Moreover, in addition to Committees on private bills, there will be, I am told, more than an average number of election petitions referred to Committees. Mr. Ferrand's seat for Devonport is to be assailed. He defeated Mr. Brassey by 1290 to 1279. This majority is small, and his opponent is enormously rich. Mr. Ferrand, therefore, I think, is by no means safe. It is, though, unlikely that Mr. Brassey will secure the seat by award of the Committee. I do not know that he asks for it; probably he only seeks to get the election annulled. But, however this may be, the cost will be great to Mr. Ferrand, unless the Conservative party come to his help, which it certainly ought to do, considering what a redoubtable champion it has had in the hon. gentleman. In 1859 he contested Devonport, unsuccessfully, three times. In 1863 he fought Sir Frederick Grey, a Lord of the Admiralty, and won; and again, as we have seen, he gained a victory in 1865, and now a costly battle in Committee is before him. If there be a balance in the Carlton treasury, or if not, Mr. Ferrand certainly ought to have assistance from the Conservative party.

So, gentlemen of the House of Commons, you may make up your minds that you will have no easy time of it. Every man of you, except such as may obtain exemption on account of age or office, will be pressed to serve in Committee; and fortunate will the man be who gets an easy group. The House of Commons has been called the finest club in England; but if the new members enter the house under the illusion that it is a mere lounging club, at which they may gossip or read in the library and go and come as they please, they will soon have this illusion dispelled. This first Session many of them will probably discover that they have hard work as well as honour. Many of the members like it, though. There is a story told of a member well known for his fondness for Committee work that he expressed his regret when he heard, after a severe fight which had lasted some weeks, that the opposition to the bill was withdrawn, "because the business was getting so interesting."

Complaints have been made of late years that the Estimates have not been laid upon the table early enough. The late Sir Henry Willoughby never failed to utter a growl or two on the subject. Her Majesty's Government have determined, if possible, to remove the cause of complaint; and to this end have sent a circular round to all the departments urging the chiefs thereof to get the Estimates ready earlier than usual.

It is too soon yet to surmise what taxes the Chancellor of the Exchequer will lift off the shoulders of her Majesty's lieges, if he should have a surplus, as I suppose he will; but a little bird has piped in my ear that he feels strongly disposed to take off, or at least reduce, the duty on omnibuses. The London General Omnibus Company, it is said, pays £50,000 a year to the Government. It is a heavy sum, and perhaps but for this burden the company would be able to furnish the public with more commodious and cleaner conveyances. If this be so, by all means, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, abolish the tax on our London omnibuses, for, save those handsome three-horse carriages, which we owe to a Manchester man, who imported them into the metropolis in the last exhibition year, they all sadly need improvement.

A petition is to be presented by certain electors of Woodstock to the House of Commons, calling the attention of the Honourable House to the unconstitutional interference of his Grace the Duke of Marlborough at the late election; and I suppose that the said petition will pray the House to take action in the matter. But how is this to be done? And, if action be taken, what will be the result? If the petition be simply presented, the House will order "that it do lie upon the table;" whereupon the clerk will thrust it into a bag, which bag will be carried to the Journal Office, and the House and the public will hear no more of it. It is competent, though, for any member to move that the petition be printed in the votes, and to raise a discussion thereon; and if this be done, and the petition be printed accordingly, and no further steps be taken, the only result will be that members may read the petition at leisure. But some member may move that the House do appoint a Select Committee, and a Committee may be appointed, and may report that the Duke did interfere unconstitutionally at the said election, and, by so doing, was guilty of violating a resolution of the House, which declares that it is "a high infringement of the liberties and privileges of the Commons of the United Kingdom for any Lord in Parliament, or other Peer or Prelate, to concern himself in the election of members to serve for the Commons in Parliament." And, if the Committee should thus report, what will happen then? Well, I have looked into the books and cannot find that any steps can be taken further than receiving the report and recording the reception of it in the journals of the House. The Commons have clearly no power to punish those who are guilty of this high infringement; and, as to the Upper House, my Lords have never recognised the aforesaid resolution. There is, however, still another process. The electors of Woodstock may petition against the return, and plead before Committee that, in consequence of the interference of the noble Duke, the election

ought to be declared void. The process, however, would cost a deal of money; and I suspect that the petitioners would find it very difficult to prove their case. In short, I fear that the aggrieved electors will find that there is no redress of their grievance to be obtained. The resolution of the House of Commons looks very formidable; but, when it comes to be examined, it is found to be like an old honeycombed cannon, dangerous only to those who attempt to fire it. But why should these Woodstock people fill the air with their shriekings? Has not the Duke of Marlborough always returned whosoever it pleased him to return? Why fret and fume and gnaw your chains, gentlemen? Better bear them patiently till a Reform Bill shall release you.

On Monday last a railway was opened from Weymouth to Portland, thus connecting this curious outlying isle or peninsula with the metropolis. It is somewhat surprising that the importance of this event has been entirely overlooked by our journals. This appears the more strange in the face of the singular fact that, out of doors or in doors, the Londoner can scarcely turn his head without beholding something from Portland, in the form of window-sills, copings, hearth-flags, door-steps, or pavement. The coast of Portland swarms with fish—much of it kinds nearly unknown on London tables, but none the less esculent and delicious. Perhaps the new line of rail and the traffic which it must induce may tend to the social amelioration of Portland; and there is certainly occasion for such a result. Moreover, Portland has a breakwater, which is one of the wonders of the world, in a vast bay which only requires a decent pier or two to render it a busy harbour, and to spare myriads of heavily-laden vessels the dangers and delay of sailing around the southern coast, past the difficult navigation of the waters off Beechey Head and the North Foreland, into the port of London. But I am exceeding the limits of gossip, and must conclude by commending this most important subject to more serious pens, and by predicting confidently that the opening of these few miles of railway along Chesil Beach will prove the commencement of greater changes than have been wrought by any line of like length throughout all Britain.

There is a row among the publishers over "Artemus Ward." Mr. J. C. Hotten, who is the London publisher of Ward's "Travels among the Mormons," &c., made an application to the Court of Chancery for an injunction to restrain Mr. S. O. Beeton from publishing the American author's previous volume, "Artemus Ward: His Book." This application has been refused, and now Mr. Beeton has commenced proceedings to recover damages for the injury he has sustained from certain trade notices and advertisements issued by Mr. Hotten. So there is a very pretty quarrel. For my part, I don't think the books in question worth the row that is being made about them. By-the-by, I notice that Mr. Beeton is guilty of a rather disingenuous act in connection with this matter. In a circular he has issued to the trade he quotes a notice of these American books which appeared in the last Number of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES, but omits a clause in one sentence in which you mention the author of the "Biglow Papers" before Artemus Ward. This omission makes you rank Ward immediately after Haliburton in point of merit, whereas you actually gave that place to Biglow. This is scarcely fair. Mr. Beeton may prefer Ward's writings to those of Biglow, and be inclined to give him the *pas* accordingly; but he has no right to garble a critic's remarks.

The evenings are drawing in, and it behoves all careful folk to warn their servants, to bid them have a suspicion of stray knocks, and to look after the umbrellas in the stand and the great-coats hung up in the hall, when they are "answering the door." The dodges of young men of "clean but poor" appearance are of infinite variety; and the family of "Mr. Job Trotter"—the Mr. Job Trotter who immortalised himself by not only "doing" Mr. Pickwick but by absolutely getting over the astute Samuel Weller—is numerous, though not respectable. The other day a young man of the well-brushed but shabby sort, napless but honest—oh! so honest!—was ushered into the study of a friend of mine (I should tell you that my friend's house is close to a chapel of ease). "What may your business be?" asked my friend. "Sir," said the young man, who was threadbare but honest—oh! so honest!—"the other day I was at Wandsworth—ahem! yes, Sir—and, as I was passing by such a place I heard three men, who appeared to be navigators, and they were talking, Sir, about the chapel next door, and one of them said, 'It must be seen to, as I know the plate is valuable, and we can get in by a window.' Yes, Sir, and more conversation of the same sort went on, so that I could see that they meant to rob the chapel; so I thought I'd let you know, Sir, living next door, as you do; yes, Sir." My friend said, "Very proper; but you ought to make this known to the Reverend Mr. Such-a-one, the Incumbent: he lives at Camberwell." "I would go to him, Sir, at once," said the young man who was poor but honest; "but—ahem!—I have not the means of paying the railway fare, &c. My friend gave the good young man eighteenpence for his fare, and, three days after heard of him at a police court. The good young man was always "warning" people, and, in the language of the heap serials, "the myrmidons of the law had tracked him."

It must be a terrible thing to be a celebrity, and I put it to that numerous body of persons who are never likely to be celebrated for anything, how grateful they ought to be for the annoyances they escape. Not that I am about to say anything about the penalties of greatness, but only want to give you an anecdote, which, if true, is strange, and if not true, is funny. A very raw Yorkshireman lately came to town to see General Tom Thumb, his wife, family, &c. He arrived late on the night of the very day that General T. T., his wife, family, &c., had held their last levee. The Yorkshireman was in despair. He had travelled all the way from Roseberry Topping to see General Tom Thumb, and he could not endure his disappointment. Luckily, he had a letter of introduction to the editor of a London newspaper. He delivered the letter, and prayed the editor, who, of course, as an editor was all-powerful, to get him a *private* interview with the General. The editor, anxious to get rid of the young man, pacified him by telling him that he would use his best endeavours. The editor left his house, and on his way to his office met Mr. Paul Bedford, to whom he related the Yorkshireman's embarrassment. Paul took the editor by the button-hole, and said, "Dear boy—dear boy, bring him to see me. I'll be General Tom Thumb!" The editor saw the joke, and sent the Yorkshireman to Mr. Paul Bedford's house. "Is General Tom Thumb at home?" asked the Yorkshireman. "Yes, Sir," said the servant, who immediately ushered him into the portly presence. The Yorkshireman looked on Mr. Paul Bedford, and Mr. Paul Bedford returned his gaze. "I beg your pardon!" said the countryman; "there is some mistake. I wished to see General Tom Thumb." "I am General Tom Thumb!" said Paul, blandly. "Yon!" cried the astonished Yorkshireman. "Me! Sit down—sit down, dear boy; and take a glass of wine." "It is a swindle—a robbery—a do—an imposition!" roared the countryman. "What is?" asked Paul, innocently. "You are!" cried the Yorkshireman. "The bills say you are only two feet something high—that you only weigh seventeen pounds." "No more I do," said Paul, "in public; but I am in private here, at home, and taking my ease!" "And—and your wife and baby?" stammered Roseberry Topping. "Just now they are out," was the reply, "and, therefore, of the size and weight described in the programmes. No one knows what we public characters go through in our anxiety to gratify our audiences. You see, during our levees, we suffer so much from compression that we are obliged to resort to these means to restore the natural balance."

## THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The ST. JAMES'S opened, on Saturday last, with the farce of "Love's Labyrinth;" a new drama, called "Caught in the Toils;" and Mr. Morton's farce of "A Thumping Legacy." "Caught in the Toils" is an adaptation, by Mr. John Brougham, of Miss Braddon's popular novel of "Only a Clod." The story is so well known that it need not be repeated; but, even if it were essential that the plot of the drama should be described, I think it would be found a difficult task. If the new adaptation be not a happy one—and it is not—the acting is capital. *Place aux dames!* Miss

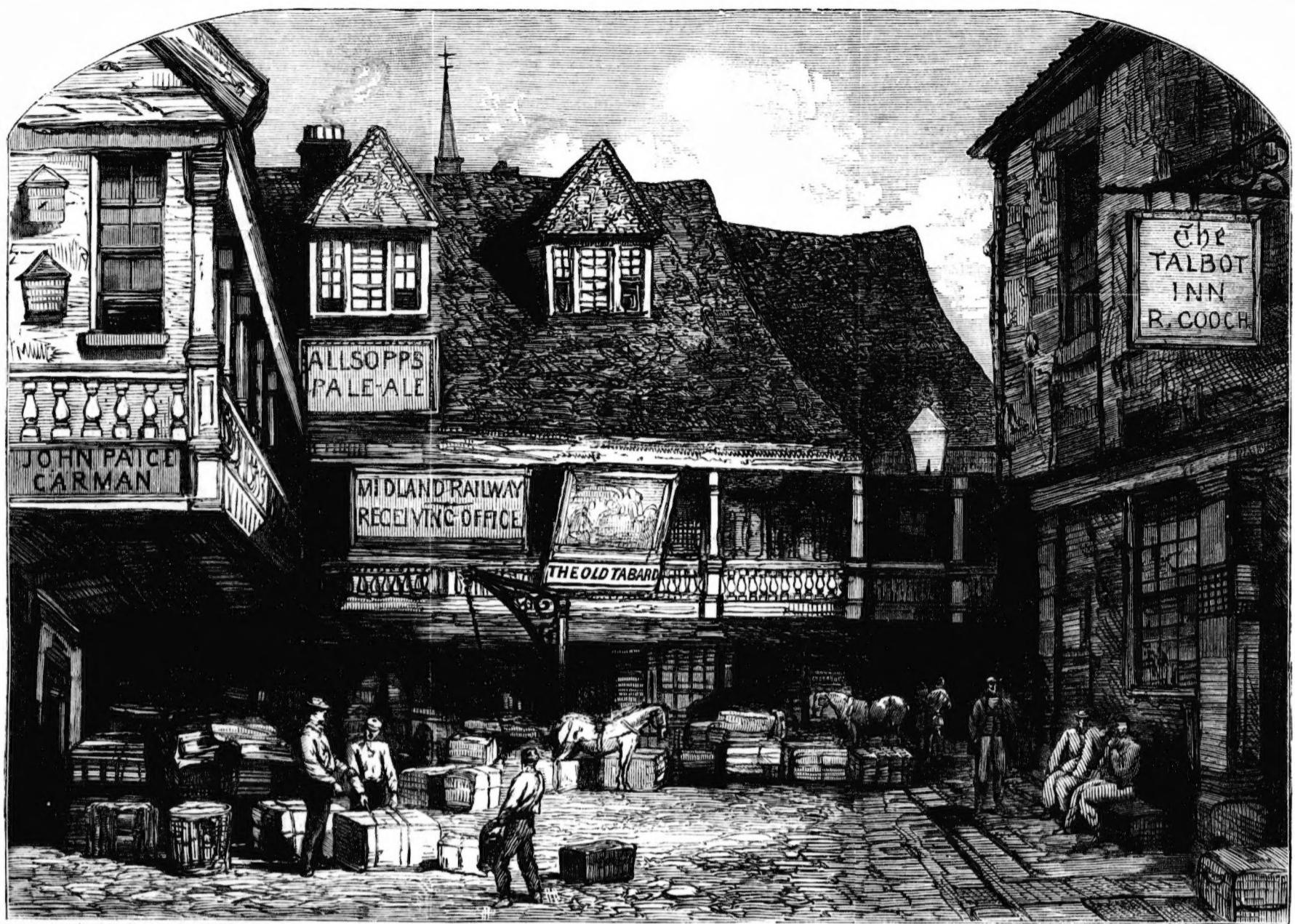
Herbert plays Julia Desmond with what I will be bold to call a four-and-twenty-Lady-Audley power, with all the fascination of the boa and the spring of the cobra. She is as polished and deadly as an oiled rifle-bullet and the sooner some author or translator ("It is the same thing," as Mr. Pecksniff remarked of the one-eyed calendar and the almanack) finds a part really worthy of her great abilities the better. But I must reluctantly leave Miss Herbert, on whose acting I should like to write a large volume, and speak of the rest of the dramatis persona. *Place aux dames* again. Miss Wentworth is graceful and tender as the deserted Susan; Miss Collinson is a very gorgeous heiress; and, as the gushing daughter of the market-gardener millionaire, Miss Buxton is very jolly; Mrs. Frank Matthews plays a *ballet-girl* good-hearted, and out of an engagement—need more be said? Mr. Frank Matthews, as the enriched gardener, exploits the geniality which has always made him so welcome to his audience; and Mr. Walter Lucy, who plays what has been intended for the hero of the piece, acts agreeably, although with more action and demonstration than is necessary in a piece where the characters are clad in coat and trousers. Mr. Belton and Mr. Charles play two rascally, heartless brothers—the most amusing personages in the play—very well indeed; and the scenery is tastefully arranged, with a presence of furniture and an absence of the lime-light highly creditable in these days of Indian English landscapes, emerald-green moonlights, and transparent topaz twilights.

At the PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE (which is the prettiest and snugliest theatre in all London) a new and original farce was produced on Monday. Mr. John Biffles, a retired and "model" Englishman, in the fulness of his heart and hospitality places a placard in his dining-room window, inviting "*les étrangers* on tout le monde," as he calls them, to dinner and lodging "*gratuitement*." His wife (Miss Larkins) and daughter (Miss Weston), not altogether approving of their establishment being turned into a lodging-house, object, and call to their aid Fred Hallibut (Mr. Sidney Bancroft), Miss Biffles' lover, who gets a number of his friends to personate Turks, Greeks, Chinese, &c., &c., whilst Mr. Hallibut himself appears as the Chevalier de Brouillard, and, after managing to borrow £100, decamps with the spoons and other valuables. This, together with the violent conduct of the supposed foreigners, who quarrel and want to fight, both among themselves and with Biffles, so thoroughly disenchants the latter that, when Hallibut discloses the plot, he is glad enough to remove his invitation from the window. There are some funny situations in the piece, which, by-the-way, is called "*Dinner for Nothing*," and is the work of Mr. C. S. Cheltnam. Mr. Clarke, upon whose shoulders the whole piece rested, was extremely good, and his make-up admirable. Whatever part may be intrusted to this excellent actor is sure to be well and efficiently carried out. Miss Larkins as Mrs. Biffles, and Miss Weston as the daughter, were also good. Mr. Sidney Bancroft made a capital Frenchman, and Mr. Montgomery a characteristic German. Mr. Tindale, as a Japanese, deserves a word of praise; and so does Mr. Hare, who, as a jealous and bloodthirsty Italian, was extremely funny.

Mr. Arthur Sketchley is about to fulfil a series of provincial engagements, after which he returns to the Egyptian Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul's Musical, Comic, and Fanciful Entertainment is now given nightly, with great success at the EGYPTIAN HALL, in the same room in which Mr. Sketchley gave "*Paris Portrayed*" and "*Mrs. Brown*." The *salle* is in the same state as regards the "auditorium" as when that gentleman left it. The platform has been very tastefully and elegantly decorated with lace, flowers, and ferns. A lady presides at the piano, whose touch alone is sufficient evidence of her musical accomplishments. We were much obliged to her for playing, during what we suppose must be called the *entrées*, selections from the various operas—for they are *operas*—of Offenbach, "*Le Financier et le Savetier*," "*Croque-fet*," "*L'Orphée*," "*Les Circassiannes*," and "*La Belle Hélène*." The programme of the entertainment consists of a scene between Miss Laura Dashaway and Mr. Willie Spoonleigh, of the Unprotected Female, of Major Jonathan Bang; Mrs. Howard Paul's tragic lyric of "*The Dream of the Reveller*"; her versatile husband's representation of "*Old Roger Whitelock*"; Jemimer Lobb, a maid-of-all-work with a bad cold and an unfortunate attachment. Mr. Rattleton Cheek, a speculator, inventor, patentee, and ladies' man; Miss Aurelia Gushington, a young lady fond of moonlight and Byron, whose maidenly susceptibilities have been aroused by a foreign Count, who turns out to be a victim to kleptomania and the police; "*Poor Staley Mildew*," a dilapidated weakling; and the living photograph of Mr. Sims Reeves. As the majority of these impersonations have been already accepted by the public, they need no comment. The songs are numerous—"Bright Chanticleer," "*The Plaint of Miss Singleheart*," "*Over the Snow*," "*When George the Third was King*," "*When I lived out in Clapham-road*," "*The Modern Ladies-Man*," "*The Foreign Count*," and "*Bother the Flies!*" The excellence of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul's entertainment is, as we have already said, so completely established in the favour of the public, that it needs no detailed description. We should, however, fail in our duty, did we not point out the marvellous ability, dramatic and vocal, exhibited by Mrs. Paul in the song of "*The Dream of the Reveller*." It is a creation of the very highest art, and the fixed silence of the audience until the song is concluded, when they make up for their quietude by enthusiastic applause, is sufficient proof of the power of the artist over her hearers. Mrs. Paul has a rare and extraordinary genius, and the tone of tragedy, after the assumption of the commonplace vulgarities of a servant-wench, startled the spectators as much as a lime-lighted sensation-scene, with effects registered and patented, at a theatre. The "*Dream of the Reveller*" is a most remarkable rendering of a somewhat commonplace song, and will be one of "the things to see and hear" for Londoners and country cousins for many nights to come.

BETHLEHEM HOSPITAL.—Among the charities of which the Charity Commissioners have recently obtained a special account is this great hospital, which stretches across so large a span in what were once St. George's-fields, but now a part of busy London. Bethlehem comprises a foundation applicable to the general purposes of the hospital, and, in fact, devoted to the treatment of patients deemed curable, and a foundation for the maintenance of incurable lunatics. The department for criminal lunatics, maintained by the Government, is no longer required, a State asylum at Broadmoor having been provided. The estates and other endowments of Bethlehem produce a gross income of £18,000 or £20,000 a year, a third of which comes from estates in Lincolnshire, given, in 1729, by E. Barkham for the maintenance of incurable lunatics. Mr. F. O. Martin, who has made the inquiry into the affairs of Bethlehem, submits that, as incurable lunatics are now provided for by county asylums, the Lincolnshire estates should be transferred to the general fund. He has to state that there have been times, and not very remote, when the management of Bethlehem has not been altogether creditable to the aldermen, common councilmen, and nomination governors bearing rule over it. The tavern lords he pronounces "not justifiable." In the period from 1817 to 1836 the Lincolnshire rental yielded £105,673, and only £32,110 found its way to the coffers of the hospital; but the expenses of the seabanks and of the estate in general have now very greatly diminished. The "arrangement" made on the discovery of the embezzlement practised by the former receiver, Mr. Hudson, has a very ugly look. Mr. Hudson was also prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and when he absconded the Treasury seems to have made some demur to the payment of his pension under the Act of Parliament. But a receipt was produced, signed by the treasurer of the hospital, for £3000, agreed to be received in discharge of all demands, and the pension of £2000 a year was then ordered to be paid to Mr. Hudson. Mr. Martin is able, however, to report that no one can fail to be struck with the great improvements which have been made in the management of the hospital. It is now, he says, under the ordinary jurisdiction of the Commissioners in Lunacy, and regularly inspected by them. In 1841 only 23·60 per cent of the patients attended chapel on Sunday, and there was a weekly average of 2·64 per cent under restraint; in 1862 55 per cent attended chapel, and restraint had been for several years unknown. Of the 115 curable patients in the hospital in 1862, only eight were unemployed; and of the sixty-one incurables, twenty-four. The cost per head of the patients appears to have increased, but the increase may be well accounted for by the rise in the price of provisions and other articles, and the more liberal arrangements for the comfort of the patients. The cost of maintenance, furniture, and clothing was rather over £36 per head in 1862. For admission to the hospital preference is given to patients of the educated classes, to secure accommodation for whom no patient is received who is a proper object for admission into a county lunatic asylum.



THE OLD TABARD (OR TALBOT) INN, SOUTHWARK.

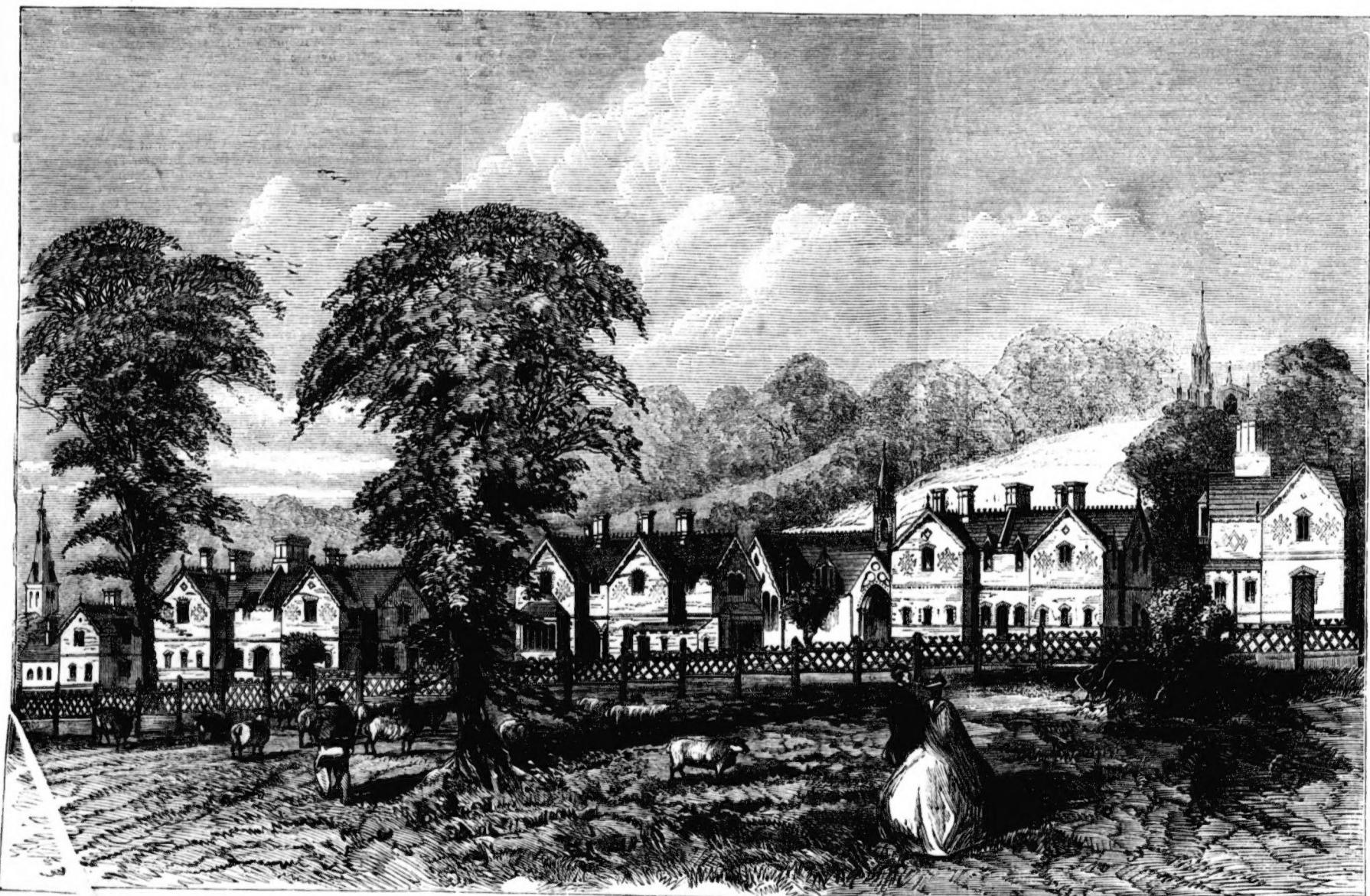
**THE OLD TABARD INN, SOUTHWARK.**

We extract the following account of the Old Tabard (or Talbot) Inn, Southwark, of which we this week publish an Engraving, from a late number of *All the Year Round* :—

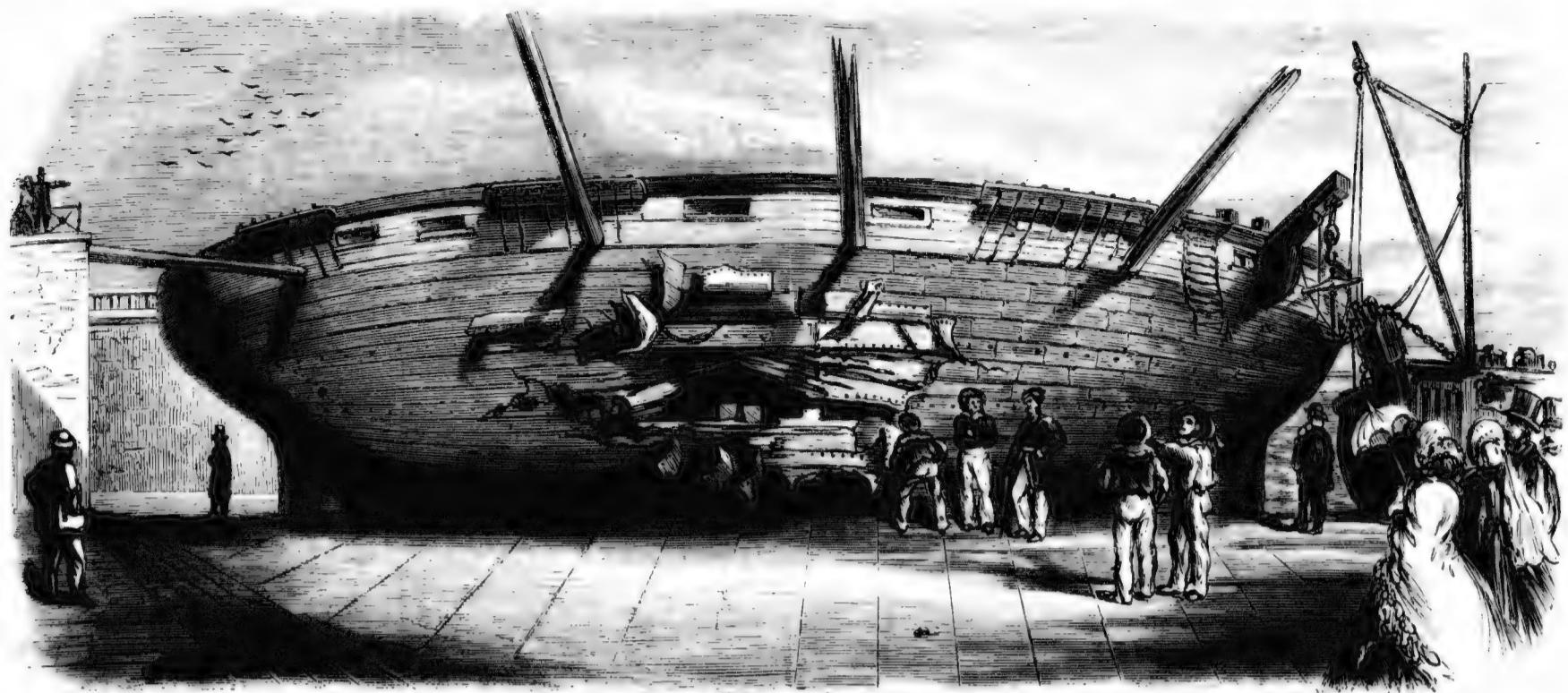
"I have been looking over one of the oldest houses in London—a

house with a story attached to it—a house with a place in English literature only second to that famous timber domicile in Henley-street, Stratford-upon-Avon, where Shakspeare first drew breath. The house of which I speak is an inn, and it has been an inn for five hundred years, or more. It is situated about a stone's-throw from one of the greatest centres of essentially modern London life to be

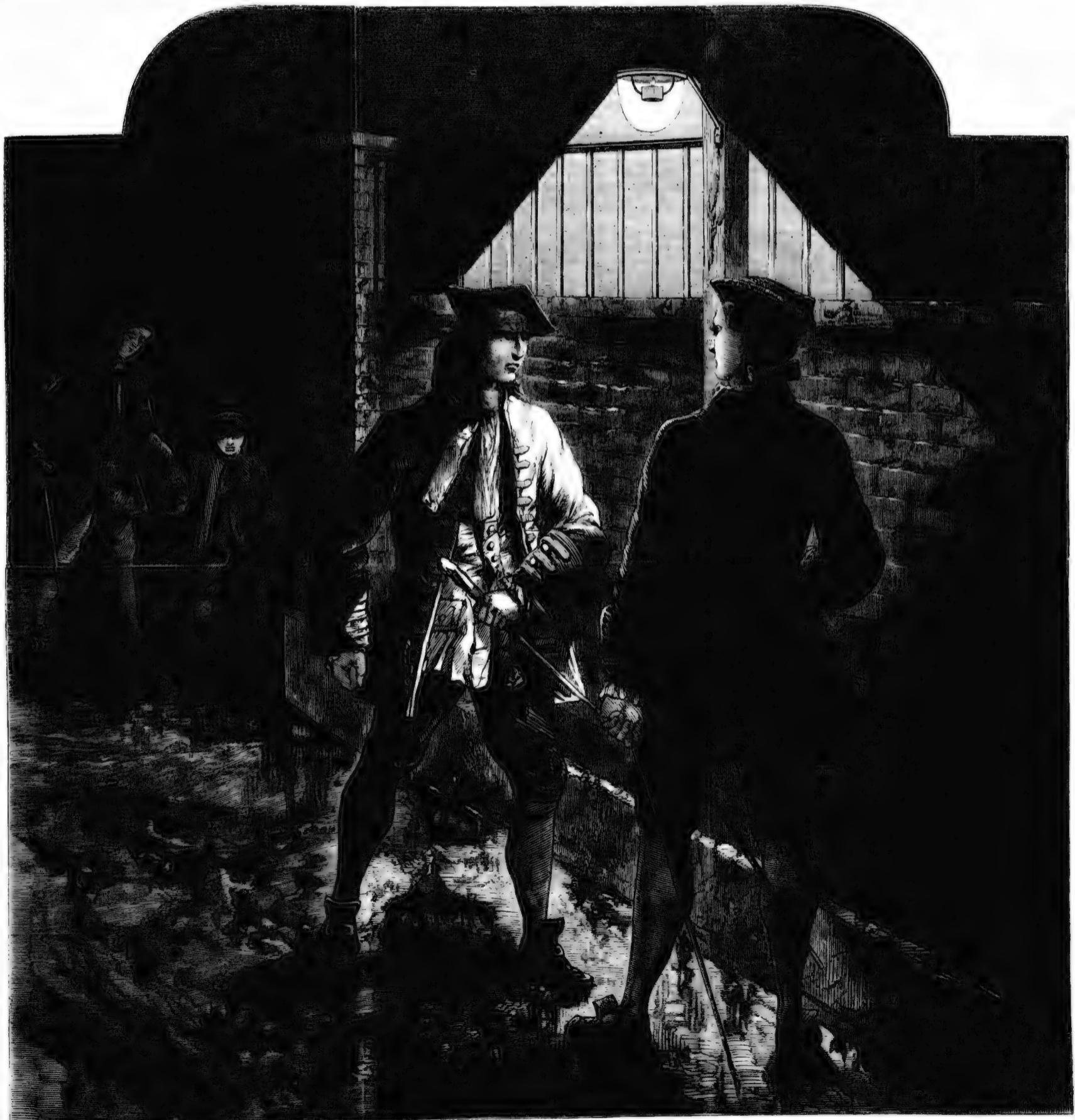
found in all this vast metropolis; yet there it lies, dim, ancient, dusty, dreamy—wonderful even, if one begins to think of all that has come and gone since first it hid itself away in the venerable seclusion of its courtyard. From the great network of railways having their termini at the top of Tooley-street it is not ten minutes' walk to this quaint old house. You pass at one step from the nine-



HOLLY VILLAGE, HIGHGATE, LATELY ERECTED BY MISS BURDETT COUTTS.



EFFECTS OF THE TORPEDO EXPLOSION ON THE TERPSICHORE.



"THE DISPUTE FOR THE WALL."

teenth century into the fourteenth. Now, you are in all the roar of omnibuses, and cabs, and vans, with trains departing and arriving every minute, a hideous iron viaduct spanning the road, and telegraphic cables vibrating in mid-air; and now, you are in a shady nook, as quiet as a monastery, and as reverend (if not more so), where you ascend by external staircases and proceed by external galleries into the oddest of little rooms, which are as the very coffins of dead and buried times.

"High-street, Southwark, is a land of old inns, as anyone may perceive by looking up the quiet courtyards which open inwards from the main thoroughfare, and which you reach by passing under archways. Being the high road to some of the southern and eastern counties of England, the street has existed for centuries as one of the great arteries of London. The Romans knew of it, and perhaps made it; or perhaps even the Britons, in the pre-Roman times, had already marked out a tract to the southern coast through the marshy soil which in those days here spread itself about the uncertain confines of the river. In the Middle Ages it was often thronged by pilgrims to the shrine of Thomas à Becket, and hence arose the number of inns by which the way is lined; for the pilgrims were commonly very jolly fellows, and did not consider it necessary to mortify themselves on the road. To this day, the White Hart, the George, the King's Head, and the Talbot—the last the most famous of all, under its more ancient and correct name of the Tabard—remain almost untouched, to remind us of the times when people travelled at the rate of only a few miles a day, and were obliged, even in the course of a short journey, to put up for the night at hosteries large enough to accommodate a small army with bed and board. At the White Hart, Shakespeare introduces Jack Cade, and it was here that Mr. Pickwick first made the acquaintance of Mr. Samuel Weller: the house until the last few weeks remained exactly as it was on the latter occasion, and as it manifestly had been for some centuries; but, as I write, it is being pulled down. Older than the White Hart, or any of the others, however, is the Tabard, and round its walls and on its roof will glimmer, as long as they shall last, the very dawn-light of English poetry.

"It was from this house, towards the close of the fourteenth century, that nine-and-twenty pilgrims set forth on that journey which gave rise to the Canterbury Tales of Geoffrey Chaucer. At this distance of time we are little concerned with the speculation whether or not any such pious company ever really started from the Tabard under the exact circumstances described by our great old poet. That pilgrimages to the shrine of St. Thomas à Becket were frequent at that period, we know as a matter of history; and that they started from hosteries in the neighbourhood, at which they had previously mustered, is so probable as to be almost certain. Chaucer, though inclined to liberal views in religion, to the extent even of being a Wycliffeite, was doubtless well enough disposed to join in the religious ceremonies of his age, if only for the sake of observing character; and it is therefore not at all unlikely that he actually formed one of a band of pilgrims who baited at the Tabard the night before their journey to the Kentish city. Again, it is probable enough that at least some of his characters are life-portraits: they certainly have all the effect of literal truth. But, even if they are pure inventions, they have been clad by the genius of the poet with that mysterious vitality which is more enduring than the mere life of flesh and blood. What men and women of the old days of Edward III. and Richard II., apart from such as have become famous, historically or otherwise, possess a tinge of the reality of those jovial pilgrims who told tales of mirth and sadness—of life, and love, and death—of marvel, and enchantment, and saintly miracle—as they ambled by the way, and who shall continue to tell them in the free and facile verse of Chaucer as long as this English tongue is spoken on English ground, or in any region peopled by our race?

"The oldest part of the inn lies back from the road and is reached by passing under a house. You then find yourself in a courtyard, with the existing tavern to the right—itself far from a new building, yet much more modern than the rest, and constructed not of timber, but of brick. Immediately in front, as you enter from the High-street, and also to the left—thus making an angle, and occupying two sides of the courtyard—is the antique timber-built hostelry, with wooden galleries, external staircase, and high, sloping roof, which, there seems some reason to believe, is partially the same edifice as that which Chaucer must have seen. I observe, indeed, that Mr. Peter Cunningham, in his excellent 'Handbook of London,' says that 'no part of the existing inn is of the age of Chaucer, but a good deal of the age of Elizabeth.' The point, however, does not appear at all certain. Speight, writing at the same time as Stow, speaks of the house as being the one from which Chaucer and the pilgrims started; and he adds that, having become 'much decayed,' through the effects of time, it had then been recently 'repaired' by 'Master J. Preston,' with the addition of many new rooms for the reception of guests. From this, then, it would seem that the house was only renovated and enlarged, not entirely rebuilt, at the time of Speight's writing. The best part of a hundred years later, however, a serious calamity befel the Tabard, and we shall have to examine whether that calamity deprived us of all traces of the original building. In 1676 a great fire broke out in Southwark about four o'clock in the morning of the 26th of May, and, according to the account given in the *London Gazette* of the 29th of the same month, 'continued with much violence all that day and part of the night following, notwithstanding all the care of the Duke of Monmouth, the Earl of Craven, and the Lord Mayor to quench the same by blowing up houses and otherwise.' In this conflagration about six hundred houses were destroyed, either by the fire itself or by being blown up. That a portion of the Tabard perished on the occasion seems to be certain, because Aubrey, who lived at the time, alludes to the fact; but the older part of the building, as we now see it, can hardly have been erected as late as the end of the seventeenth century, as the style of architecture is manifestly that of a much earlier period. 'Galleries like this,' writes Mr. John Saunders, in his interesting paper on the Tabard in Mr. Charles Knight's London, 'belong not to the time of Charles II.;' nor, it may be added, do the rooms which open on to the gallery, nor the passages and corridors, nor the queer old attics, nor indeed any of the features of the place. The house in the High-street, under which you pass to gain the courtyard, was, doubtless, built after the fire in 1676; so, perhaps, was the tavern to the right of the gateway, where you may sit in a little bar-parlour, and order refreshments in a little bar; but the timber edifice at the back, and to the left hand, is unquestionably much older. The great question is as to the amount of rebuilding carried out by Master J. Preston. The fairest interpretation of Speight's words seems to be, that a portion of the Chaucerian hostelry survived the alterations and repairs; and, if so, it is almost certain that that portion remains to this day.

"At any rate, the house has an hereditary connection with the masterpiece of our first great poet, and it is certainly old, and quaint, and interesting. Ascending into the gallery, under the guidance of one of the female servants of the inn, who seems to take as lively a concern in the antiquities of the place as though she were an antiquary, I enter, one by one, the little, mouldering, dusky, panelled rooms, some of them still occupied as dormitories, some empty and unused, in which the very air seems heavy with a weight of centuries. There is something ghostly about the place, it is so much a thing of the past and lingers so strangely in the full daylight of the present. The old timber, doubtless, is firm enough at the heart, for the floors are solid to the tread, and seem as if they would last a long while yet; but the surface of the great beams and panels crumbles to the touch, coming down in a little grey and noiseless shower, like the stealthiness and mystery of death. The ironwork, as in the binges of doors, is red and cankered with the rust of years; and damp 'has written strange defences' on the ceilings. Creeping about the rooms and corridors in this summer noon, I fancy that here is the very corpse of a house, slowly decomposing before my eyes, rather than a living house, such as one is accustomed to dwell in. I think I should hardly like to sleep here—not for fear of seeing ghosts, but because I should be oppressed by a sense of the immense array of human lives that had been before me in these rooms, and

had traced their little circles and passed away into the dim immensity, leaving no record of their presence. What dreams have been dreamt in these sleeping-chambers by those who are themselves dreams now, and dreams that are forgotten! Dreams of good and evil, of youth and age; lovers' dreams, avaricious dreams, ambitious dreams, incoherent dreams, murderous dreams, with the knife at the throat, and a sense of life-long horror; wicked and haggis dreams; and others, again, fair with the promise of goodly days, or sweet with exquisite memories of the past! What projects have been formed here by pilgrims wending to the shrine of Thomas à Becket, or travellers going about their secular business; projects of which, whether in success or failure, the cynic hand of Time has written the old, old moral—that all is vanity beneath the sun! Truly, these ancient houses preach more grimly than a death's-head. Up here in the deserted garrets, crouching under the sloping roof, one might indulge the Jaques vein bravely. All garrets are melancholy places; but were there ever such forlorn garrets as these? Thick with dust, ghastly with rotting wood and crumbling iron (here is a hinge on one of the doors so primitive in shape that it looks as if it might have been made by Tubal Cain), dim, blinking, and haggard with long solitude, they look as if they had been abandoned for centuries. A skeleton bedstead lurks in one, and a skeleton armchair in another—both gone to decay. If anybody comes up here alone, at night, with a swaying, sputtering candle, I think he is a bold man. Surely there are not such rooms as these, except in a ghost story; they look so 'eerie, even in the sunlight, that we will descend once more to the gallery and the main suite of chambers.

"So, this little cupboard is 'The Pilgrims' Room,' where Harry Baily (andord temp. Richard the Second) feasted the nine-and-twenty pilgrims? Yes, says my conductress; but then the hall originally ran along the whole length of the gallery, and has since been divided into a number of little rooms. That this was really the case is very probable. The idea first struck Mr. John Saunders, on his visit, in 1841, described in the paper to which allusion has already been made; and the conjecture thus thrown out is now stated by the attendants at the inn as a positive fact. The architectural features of the rooms show signs that all was at one time open from end to end; and it is not improbable that Master J. Preston made the alteration when he was about his repairs. Over the chimney-piece in 'The Pilgrims' Room' there was at one time a fragment of ancient tapestry, representing a procession; but this has now disappeared. Outside on the gallery, however, you may still see, under the penthouse roof, a picture of the pilgrims, said to have been painted by Blake, but which is now so obscured by dirt and weather that scarcely a single figure can be detected in the general haze.

"And this strange old inn—this most interesting memorial of the earliest work of genius in our language—this house which in France, or Germany, or Italy would be regarded as almost sacred, and which, in fact, is visited by literary pilgrims from America, as well as from various parts of England, is to be pulled down! After lasting for five centuries, it is at length to give way before the devastating rush of modern change. They tell me at the inn that the lease will run out in some two years from the present time, and that then the old walls are doomed. A pile of warehouses, I understand, is to take their place. The back of the High-street, Southwark, as I have already remarked, is a cluster of old inns and inn-yards, all of them interesting, but none so interesting or so old as this Tabard or Talbot. Will the literary men and the antiquaries of England suffer such a loss without at least making an effort to avert it? There is time enough for the attempt, and time in itself is a great auxiliary. We have saved Shakespeare's house at Stratford; let us all do our best to save Chaucer's house at Southwark."

#### HOLLY VILLAGE, HIGHGATE.

THERE are few names so constantly associated with works of benevolence and improvement as that of Miss Burdett Coutts. In the erection and support of churches, schools, markets—in short, in promoting any useful public object anywhere—that kindly lady is ever ready to co-operate; and, in not a few instances, she has defrayed the entire cost of such edifices as those we have mentioned. Nor is she indifferent to the question to which Mr. Ruskin has lately devoted some attention—namely, the erection of tasteful and comfortable dwellings. An instance of Miss Coutts's efforts in this direction is exhibited in a cluster of pretty cottages which she has just had erected at the foot of Highgate-hill, in the Cemetery-road, and immediately adjoining the policies surrounding her own residence, Holly Lodge. These cottages, which, we believe, are to be called Holly Village, have been built from plans furnished by Mr. H. A. Darbshire, and are in the Domestic Gothic style of architecture. Holly Village consists of three double cottages, two single cottages, and two cottages arranged for lodgers. These latter have separate entrances and conveniences, but affording facilities for attendance and cooking from the persons occupying the larger portion of the building. The ordinary cottages consist of from five to seven or eight rooms, with kitchens, laundries, cellars, and every other convenience. The lodgers' cottages contain a comfortable sitting and bed room, together with bath-room, cellars, &c. The houses are all built in the most substantial manner, the whole of the partitions being of brick, and the woodwork, which is all finished in the most elaborate style, is entirely of Moulmein teak. The floors of the kitchens, &c., are laid with glazed tiles, and the firegrates and other fittings are all of the most improved construction. The cottages form a sort of irregular elliptical circle, with one principal gateway and other entrances in convenient positions. In the centre of the group there is a considerable space of ground, which, lying on a slope, has been laid out in a succession of terraces and sown with grass, but interspersed with tastefully-arranged flower-beds. The space immediately surrounding each cottage is also to be devoted to the cultivation of flowers, either under the care of the inhabitants themselves or of a gardener in charge of the whole of the ground. The drainage and inclosure are carefully provided for, and everything has been done to render these cottages suitable residences for clerks, commercial travellers, and so on, the class of persons for whom they have been designed. Indeed, more charming and comfortable dwellings it would be difficult to conceive; and the whole plan and execution of their erection does equal credit to the benevolent proprietor, to the architect, Mr. Darbshire, and to the builders, Messrs. Cubitt, of Gray's-inn-road. We do not know what scale of rents Miss Coutts intends to charge for these cottages, of which it may well be said that,

If there is peace to be found in the world,  
The heart that is humble may hope for it here;  
but it is clear, from the superiority of the materials employed and the care and finish of the workmanship, that Miss Coutts must in this, as in so many other matters, have thought more of the interests of others than of herself.

#### THE BLOWING UP OF THE TERPSICHORE.

We last week described the effect produced upon the Terpsichore by the explosion of a torpedo beneath her bottom in the Medway at Chatham. We now publish an Engraving showing the damage done to the hull of the vessel. The astonishing effect of the explosion as exhibited externally raises a question as to the possibility of resisting the influence of torpedoes by strengthening the bottoms of ships. This, however, would appear to be useless, as the power of the torpedoes can be increased at pleasure: where these engines of destruction can be brought to bear, they would seem to bid defiance to any strength of fabric. The bottom of the Terpsichore was not only blown in, but the midship portion of the lower deck was literally forced upwards, everything flying before the force of the explosion. The only feasible defence against the influence of these torpedoes appears to be to keep a "bright look-out" on board ships when blockading or attacking a fort or other object, so as to prevent the machine being placed sufficiently near to be dangerous. This, of course, is supposing that the torpedoes will be attempted to be "planted" after ships have taken up a position; but equal pre-

caution would be necessary in approaching a hostile fort, lest the roadway should already be studded with these dangerous machines, which, constructed on the percussion principle, would be exploded by contact with the ship's bottom, as she passed over them.

#### "THE DISPUTE FOR THE WALL."

THEY were fine old times when such episodes as that represented in our illustration were of nightly occurrence, fine full-flavoured good old times, when ruffianism rode rampant in point and steenkirk, embroidery, silk stockings, and silver lace, when "every gentleman knew the use of his weapon," and there were not wanting even titled bullies and cutthroats to keep him in practice. They were the times when my Lord Mohun and his satellites butchered poor Mountford, the player, for acting the part of Alexander to the Statira of Mrs. Bracegirdle; and when the Mobocks made the streets a terror by an organised brutality, which spared neither age nor sex, but, growing mad from license, slit the noses, pricked the legs, plastered the faces, broke the heads, and maimed the limbs of men, women, and children, till even Swift, being physically a non-combatant, writes that they cause him to spend a fortune in sedan chairs, not perhaps so much for the sake of the conveyance as for the protection of those brawny chairmen (themselves no mean adepts in ruffianism) who were so powerful as to be called by Fielding "the fourth estate," a title since ceded to the press.

Gas had not then been applied to the purpose of lighting London streets, and such few lamps as were there only made darkness visible. The flambeaus borne by the footmen attested the rank of the aristocracy who rode in their chariots, lighted on their devous way by a crowd of attendants bearing flaming torches; the link boy or man was at the service of the less pretentious pedestrian who desired to avoid the triple dangers of ruinous causeways, overhanging spouts, and lurking footpads.

Gay, in his "Trivia," has left us a lively picture of London streets 130 years ago, when

Each stone will wrench the unwary step aside.

The middle of a paved street was generally occupied by a great gutter, and the sides of the carriage-way were full of big holes where the coaches stuck and had frequently to be left in the quagmire till assistance was procured to drag them out; while fagots were thrown into the ruts on the days when the King went to Parliament, in order to make the passage of King-street and Union-street more easy. The posts, in fact, made the principal distinction between the footpath and the carriage-way, the space between them being as uneven as that without, and so narrow that, as only one person could pass at a time, the contests for the wall made quarrels of common occurrence, and more peaceful passengers were frequently startled by the oaths and cries of sudden assault, accompanied with the din of staves or the clashing of swords.

Lord Macaulay says, in his review of the state of London at the end of the seventeenth century:—"The drainage was so bad that in rainy weather the gutters soon became torrents. Several facetious poets have commemorated the fury with which these black rivulets roared down Snow-hill and Ludgate-hill, bearing to Fleet Ditch a vast tribute of animal and vegetable filth from the stalls of butchers and greengrocers. This flood was profusely thrown to right and left by coaches and carts. To keep as far from the carriage-road as possible was therefore the wish of every pedestrian. The mild and timid gave the wall. The bold and athletic took it. If two rioters met, they cocked their hats in each other's faces, and pushed each other about till the weaker was shoved towards the kennel. If he was a mere bully he sneaked off, muttering that he should find a time. If he was pugnacious, the encounter probably ended in a duel behind Montague House."

That London streets were but little better even by the aid of the link-boys, who added a new danger, may be seen from Gay, who, in warning strain, says:—

Though thou art tempted by the linkman's call,  
Yet trust him not along the lonely wall;  
In the midway he'll quench the flaming brand,  
And share the booty with the pilfering hand.  
Still keep the public streets, where oily rays  
Shot from the crystal lamp, o'erspread thy ways.

What the oily rays could do was very little, after all. Hogarth's picture of "Night" will give some idea of what several portions of London were like in his time; and that even "the flambeau's bright approach" and the improved lighting of the town in Dr. Johnson's time had still left the streets dangerous from the riot of fashionable brawlers, we learn from the verse where the burly philosopher says:—

Prepare for death, if here at night you roam,  
And sign your will before you sup from home.  
Some fiery top, with new commission vain,  
Who sleeps on brambles till he kills his man—  
Some frolic drunkard, reeling from a feast,  
Provokes a broil, and stabs you for a jest.

#### DEATH OF ERNST THE COMPOSER.

ERNST, the most famous, and in some respects the most gifted, violinist of his day, died on Sunday week, at Nice, in the pleasant climate of which healthful place he had often sought to lessen the intensity of his constant suffering. The life of an executive musician, however brilliant his career, is rarely eventful, and in the biography of the great genius who has just ceased to exist there is but little incident to vary the continuous record of a long series of achieved triumphs. Ernst was born at Brunn, in Moravia, in 1814, so that at his death he had not long over-stepped his fiftieth year. A pupil of the Viennese Conservatoire, he received lessons from Boehm; the Kapellmeister Seyfried taught him harmony; and he then had instruction from Mayader. When only sixteen years of age he undertook his first journey to Munich, Stuttgart, and Frankfort, where the precocity of his talent awakened general interest. He went to Paris in 1832, and made a long stay in that city, where he studied the style of the French violinists, especially of the celebrated De Beriot, who at that time was the hero of the concert-room. In 1838 he went through Holland, where he obtained singular success. Returned to Paris at the beginning of 1839, he gave several concerts, and then he visited Southern Germany, staying at Vienna in 1840. In 1844 he came to London, and here he afterwards passed many seasons. His talent was fully appreciated. Among his compositions for his instrument may be mentioned two nocturnes for violin and orchestra, the second number of which, an andante cantabile, has had great success; an elegie for violin and piano, a charming piece, which has been played everywhere, and to which Spohr wrote an introduction; fantasia on the march and romance in "Otello;" concerto with orchestra; rondo on "Die Zauberflöte." To this list several other pieces might be added, but an imitation of Paganini's "Carnaval de Venise" should be mentioned, because it is identified with Ernst's playing. The malady to which he appears at length to have succumbed prevented some years ago his fingers from exercising their former cunning; and of late he has entirely disappeared from public life. But, though his hands were powerless to interpret the musical thoughts of others, his active brain was yet capable of creating musical ideas of his own. He could still write for the beloved instrument which would no longer obey his behests. So he composed quartets, and these he delivered over to his ablest successor. We need not remind musical readers that one of the Monday Popular Concerts was devoted to a benefit for Herr Ernst, and that Herr Joachim introduced the composition of his afflicted brother in art. We have yet among us greater artists than Ernst, but it is doubtful if we shall ever again hear the strings of a violin breathe such poetry as was evolved under the pressure of his magic bow; such strains might, indeed, "create a soul beneath the ribs of death."

A WOMAN IN AMERICA, being enjoined to try the effect of kindness on her husband, and being told that if he did not respond in the same spirit and heap coals of fire on his head, replied that she had tried boiling water and it didn't do a bit of good.

## Literature.

*Sir Jasper's Tenant.* By the Author of "Lady Audley's Secret," &c. 3 vols. John Maxwell and Co.

There is no doubt Miss Braddon is a powerful and prolific story-teller. She has a quick eye, an excellent memory, and a strong pen. Above all, she has a manner of her own; she is individual. She is not like Wilkie Collins, or the author of "Whitefriars" (to whom this book is dedicated—"To my dear friend, the Author of 'Whitefriars'"), or anybody else that can be named. There is plenty of fibre in this writer. We do not know anyone who has more command of her matter; her subject never runs away with her; she always holds the reins, and, thus far, holds them firmly. The reader cannot escape a certain feeling of steady, controlling power in his author, and this keeps him interested, whatever faults he may have to find.

It would be very wrong to say Miss Braddon writes Bohemian stories, or violates any received code of morals in her narratives. On the contrary, she goes out of her way to write "good," and sets up ninepins of scepticism to be knocked down in hasty little paragraphs about "the problem of humanity having been solved eighteen hundred years ago." Yet, although we recognise her good people for good, they do not strike us as being real in any high sense: an exaggeration here, a secondhand touch there, taken from the reality of the impression, and makes us rather glad than otherwise when the necessities of scene-shifting hand us over to quite commonplace people. Dobb, the brewer's clerk, and his friends are perfectly natural; but George Pierpoint and Marcia Denison we cannot swallow. They would do upon the stage, passing rapidly to and fro under the gas, and liable in the course of nature to be forgotten next morning; but when we dwell upon them in the printed page we do not quite believe in them. Not that we doubt the possibility or probability of goodness of these types, or better types, but that the particular portraits are not naturally done; the lines are not fluent, the thews are too strong, the colours lie in patches. A novel by Miss Braddon is always more or less stagy; the characters and the plot strike us as having been conceived for the theatre, and then diverted and put into a story. All through this book we have seen Charles Mathews playing Sir Jasper, Mr. Creswick (shall we say?) playing George, and Mr. Basil Potter (shall it be?) playing Gervoise. We have been unable—we are always unable—in reading Miss Braddon, to conceive of the characters any otherwise than as performed. Considered as a story, "Sir Jasper's Tenant" is a long sketch. What invention there is in it lies in a nutshell; but the broad, vigorous handling of the author makes three very readable volumes out of it. The story of George Pierpoint's early folly is commonplace enough, and yet we read it with interest: one instance out of a score of this writer's strength of grasp and real pictorial energy. The sketch of Dobb is capital. Nothing can be better done than his relations with his fellow-clerk (whom he snubs and patronises); those friendly evenings when the tobacco goes round in a jam-pot; and the social intercourse is at an end when the beer is finished; or the breakfast at which the wife, who has handed him an egg smelling of "the straw," glares at him in silence over the Britannia-metal teapot. Sir Jasper is "well kept up," as people say; but the author must surely be aware that he is farce or decided low comedy.

It is not for critics to interfere or dictate, and the author of "Sir Jasper's Tenant" knows as much as any critic can tell her. But she must have ambitions which this energetic cleverness will never help her to satisfy. A writer who is constantly employed, as she is, in making human beings, must now and then make figures which only want brooding over to become objects of permanent attachment to herself and her readers. Which of Miss Braddon's "characters" do we remember, or care a button about? With all this writing she has not fixed a single type in the minds even of readers who are as willing to be pleased as the present critic claims to be. Perhaps she studies French models too much.

We need hardly repeat that "Sir Jasper's Tenant" is very readable, and full of movement, colour, and animal spirits. Now and then there is a touch of humour strong enough to make you laugh, and the general effect is better in the consecutive three-volume form than it was in *Temple Bar*. We cannot help believing that a capital "character-part" for Mr. Charles Mathews might be got out of Sir Jasper.

*The Complete Works of Robert Burns.* Edited by JOHN S. ROBERTS. With an Original Memoir by WILLIAM GUNNION. Edinburgh: W. P. Nimmo.

Of the many editions of the works of the Scottish national poet, this, if not the most elaborately got-up, is about the handiest and the cheapest we have seen. The book has been carefully edited. All the poet's original notes are retained, while a vast number more have been added, explanatory of the text or of particular words and phrases. To each piece there is prefixed a short introductory note explaining the circumstances under which the poem was composed and giving the names of the persons to whom it refers, together with such facts as are known concerning them. This gives a peculiar value and interest to the work. The memoir, by Mr. Gunnion, if wanting in the fire which characterises the late Professor Wilson's writings on Burns, is perhaps more discriminating, and is free from the gossipy tediousness of Currie and Cunningham. By Scotchmen, however, we fear Mr. Gunnion will be deemed wanting in warmth of appreciation; though he eagerly vindicates the poet's countrymen from the charge of neglecting him while in life and heaping honours upon his memory when no more. If it is well to reverse the tomb of genius, it would be better to honour and reward the man while living. But the fault of Scotland in regard to Burns—if it was a fault—is one which she shares in common with other countries, in regard to great men. There is an excellent steel portrait of the poet prefixed to the volume, which is illustrated throughout by clever engravings on wood. But what in the world could the illustrator of the poem on the Mountain Daisy have been thinking of when he made his design? Scotch ploughmen are "sturdy chieftains," and have often very rugged soil to work upon; but we are sure that not even a Highland, much less an Ayrshire, ploughman could have driven his "share" over such a bit of ground as we have here depicted. The artist has drawn, not a corn-field which could be turned over with the plough, but a rugged ravine, covered with huge stone boulders, trees, and rank vegetation. The daisy depicted, too, is not the "wee, modest, crimson-tipped flower" of our recollections of Scottish fields, but a plant which, if the proportions are at all in keeping, must have been several feet in height. We are also sorry to observe several typographical mistakes in the volume, one of which, the most serious we have noticed, may be pointed out, as it will be easy of correction in future issues. The first three lines of the fourth verse of the song "Duncan Gray" are thus printed:

How it comes, let doctors tell  
Ha, ha, the wooring o't,  
Meg grew sick as he grew heat.

The last word, of course, should be *well*, to suit both the sense and the rhyme.

*The School for Fathers.* By TALBOT GWINNE. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

This clever story has been added to Smith and Elder's monthly shilling volumes of standard novels. The tale is laid in the eighteenth century, and portrays the difference between fox-hunting country squires and polished fine gentlemen of the metropolis. Sir Thomas Warren is a younger brother, who betakes himself to the Court and courtly usages, while his elder brother remains on the paternal estate and devotes himself to country life. Sir Thomas has an only son, Jack Warren, whom he neglects in his youth, and allows to grow up to the age of about nineteen, leaving him to be educated by his uncle, the Squire, according to his ideas. The father then reclaims the youth, and undertakes to make a fine gentleman, a politician, and statesman of him. In this, of course, he fails. The young fellow can't learn feopery, and won't be corrupted into the loose ways of the "good society" of the period. He gets into a

quarrel through trying to follow his father's directions, is challenged, fights a duel with an accomplished swordsman, and is, of course, killed. There is a pretty episode of the young squire's love for a sweet country maiden, a Rector's daughter, of his truthfulness to her, and of her mistake as to her love for him, which she ultimately discovers to be that of a sister for a brother, not of an affiancee for her future husband. Poor Jack's death, however, removes all difficulties, and pretty Lydia marries according to her wishes. The hearty, honest joviality of old Squire Warren, and the heartless selfishness of Sir Thomas, are admirably portrayed. Altogether, "The School for Fathers" is a very pretty tale very well told; and involves the sensible moral that everyone should be allowed to follow the career for which nature and habit fit him.

*The Official Illustrated Guide to the Great Eastern Railway (Cambridge and Colchester Lines).* By GEORGE MEASOM. London: Published, under the authority of the Directors, by Griffin and Co.

Mr. Measom's official illustrated railway guides have long been before the public, and have now become established institutions. It is, therefore, scarcely necessary to criticise this to the Great Eastern Railway further than to say that it is equal in all respects to its predecessors. A beautiful steel engraving of Waltham Abbey is prefixed to the volume, and the numerous woodcut illustrations with which it is replete are of high excellence. There are also maps, showing the two great divisions of the Great Eastern system (the Cambridge and Colchester lines), together with the connecting branches and adjacent lines of railway, as well as of that part of the Continent to which the Great Eastern gives convenient access. Full descriptions are given of all places on the route, including their history, antiquities, topography, legends connected with them, manufactures carried on in the towns, &c. Nor does Mr. Measom confine himself rigidly to places of interest on the line with which he is immediately concerned. He diverges on each side to tell what is interesting in relation to places in the vicinity. For instance, although St. Albans does not stand upon the Great Eastern or any of its branches, nor is likely to do so, Mr. Measom's comprehensive glance takes in the old Verulamium of the Romans, with all its intensely interesting history from the days of Beadicea to those times in which we live. The martyrdom of St. Alban, the battles fought here during the wars of the Roses; Gorhambury House, the residence of the immortal Bacon; the splendid old abbey church, &c., are all described and illustrated in admirable style. We mention this as a specimen of the careful and exhaustive manner in which Mr. Measom has treated his subject, for every place of note on the Great Eastern Railway or in its vicinity is treated in the same painstaking fashion. The work also contains valuable information as to hotels, tourists routes, and so forth, and is altogether an excellent and most useful volume, the price of which (3s. 6d.) is infinitely less than it is worth.

### CHEAP EDITIONS OF POPULAR NOVELS.

*Paul Foster's Daughter.* By DUTTON COOK. Sampson Low and Co.

*The House of Elmore.* By the Author of "Grandmother's Money," &c. Chapman and Hall.

*Winifred's Wooing.* By GEORGIANA M. CRAIK. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Without talking about "the Stamp of Fame," whatever that may be, it may be frankly granted that a cheap edition is a good test of popularity. And, in the case of a book which comes from a creditable source, it may be also taken as a test of merit; the creditable source being necessary in the face of the fact that large circulations are delusive since nobody would care to compare the sale of the *Farthing Ghost* with that of *Macmillan's Magazine*, or to compare their respective merits either. The three cheap volumes before us are excellent specimens of the literature calculated to lie on shelves without loading them, or to borrow or to lend, or to wear out in families without any terrible sacrifice of the waistcoat-pocket's feelings. "Paul Foster's Daughter" is one of the best of Mr. Dutton Cook's stories. The incidents and explanations cluster cleverly at the climax, and the best teaching abounds, whilst there is not the least shadow of lecturing or preaching. The daughter is a darling; the father "a painter who cannot paint"—at least, successfully—an excellent, easy-going character, cheerful under misfortune, and whom to know is to make a friend. The Dax mystery is cleverly managed, and the love-making, which, by-the-way, is shamefully delayed, seems a delightful piece of experience. With a chivalrous hero and two or three nice actresses, what more would the novel-reader have?

"The House of Elmore" is of another stamp. Throughout the author has been successful in preserving a feeling of sadness and gloom—a sensation of impending calamity—which is highly seductive to some minds. And, indeed, there are just a few things calculated to upset nerves of ordinary iron. The lady confesses her guilt; the husband goes mad, but recovers, and takes his family into retirement; the second son makes the eldest a cripple; the father takes to disgraceful drinking; the eldest son disappears because his father wishes him not to marry a governess. The writer of the story breaks one girl's heart (or nearly so) and marries a "widow," who proves to have a husband already. A scoundrel manages to make a terribly bad disposition of the family property, and to secure one third of it for himself. Young Elmore shoots him dead in a duel, having given his antagonist an unloaded pistol; and, finally, all that we hear of Miss Elmore is, that she is the mistress of a "red-faced" Royal Duke. Three more volumes like these, and it would be time to stir the fire!

Miss Craik's little story, which, by-the-way, is one of Smith and Elder's monthly standard volumes, comes like a gleam of sunshine amongst modern fiction. It is so pretty, so innocent. Winifred is grown up, but is still quite a child: she is wilful, and, in fact, spoiled. Her father is suddenly ruined, and as suddenly dies, and so she releases Sir Charles from his engagement, and has to face guardians and friends. She did not in the least care for Sir Charles, but she would have married him because her papa wished it and her aunt did not, and because she thought it would be very nice to be called Lady Sinclair. Throughout she is "sparring" with her guardian, an honest ironmaster, named Robert Bertram. Robert is tease, but as good as gold, and he gradually tames Winifred until she drops into his arms, confessing to herself that she has all along been mistaking love for hate. That is all the story, and it takes very few people to tell it; but it is told with admirable simplicity, and has a peculiar charm thoroughly native and belonging to itself alone.

**MANUFACTURE OF RAILWAY SIGNALS.**—The manufacture of railway signals with their machinery has now become an extensive business, employing hundreds of skilled workmen. The signals on a railway forty or fifty miles long cost as much as £3000, and the complicated ones at a chief station on a great railway will cost £2000. These signals are of the semaphore kind. Immense levers move railway points and signals at the same time. One of the principal railway-signal manufacturers, who employs 400 hands, was formerly a common carpenter on a railway.

**PITMEN'S STRIKE AND RIOTING AT CRAMLINGTON.**—The colliers of Cramlington, a pit village in the north, have been on strike for several weeks; and, as there was no sign of the pitmen returning to work, their employers resolved to evict them from their cottages, which, as is generally the case in the north, are held by the pitmen rent free, as part of their remuneration. It happened, unfortunately, that the days selected for the evictions were wet and stormy; and, as the pitmen made no preparation to go elsewhere, the turning them and their families out of doors in the drenching rain added to the excitement and indignation which was felt by their fellow-workmen through the district. On Thursday week the evictions were resumed, till one of the pitmen, more clever than his neighbours, barricaded his door, and, as the evictors had no warrant to force it open, the proceedings were suspended. The eviction was renewed on Friday week, and led to some serious rioting, stones and sticks being freely used by the people, and the police in self-defence bringing their truncheons to bear as forcible arguments against a further breach of peace. Several men who were taken into custody were subsequently liberated to appease the others. The military have been called out, although no further evictions have taken place. On Tuesday six of the rioters were charged at Newcastle with unlawfully assembling and disturbance of the peace, and, having pleaded not guilty, were committed for trial at Alnwick on October 21.

## THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

An interim report on this subject has been presented to the Lord Provost and magistrates of Edinburgh by the medical committee, lately appointed by them to investigate the causes and symptoms of rinderpest, and the means of prevention and cure. The report is signed by Dr. Andrew Wood, the chairman, and may be regarded as embodying the best available skill of the medical and veterinary colleges of Edinburgh. The following is an abstract of its conclusions:—

- That the disease is communicated by contagion from diseased to healthy cattle, and apparently by contagion alone.
- That the poison of rinderpest is a specific poison, which fifth may intensify but cannot generate.
- The question whether the contagion can be propagated by inoculation remains to be tested.
- That the poison, as in other zymotic diseases, is introduced chiefly by means of inhalation into the lungs, from which it passes into the blood, where it multiplies itself, and is thence carried to every tissue and organ of the body.
- That it seems probable that infection may be carried by the poison adhering to the clothes of persons in attendance on the diseased cattle.
- That the liability of sheep to take rinderpest, or to carry infection, is being submitted to tests in this city which may be regarded as decisive.
- That, even during unexpected incubation, infected animals may communicate the disease to others.
- That the period of incubation generally lasts for six or seven, but may extend to ten or fourteen, or even to twenty-one, days.
- That there is a great risk, under present circumstances, in bringing together droves of cattle, as at fairs or markets, as animals may communicate infection which yet show no outward symptoms of the disease.
- That fairs and markets for the sale of lean or store cattle ought to be for the present suspended, and the greatest caution should be exercised in regard to the traffic in fat cattle; and, where markets for fat cattle are unavoidable, they should be held twice a week, so that the cattle purchased by butchers may be slaughtered without delay.
- The committee are decidedly of opinion that cases of rinderpest may and ought to be treated with a view to cure; that the disease, if seen in its earlier stages, is amenable to treatment, and that, even where the symptoms have become serious, the case is not to be looked upon as hopeless or its treatment abandoned.
- That the disease may be expected to become milder in its type and more tractable after it has lasted some time, and the proportion of deaths will become notably diminished.
- That the committee deprecate for a large extent, acted upon throughout the country.
- That it is of the greatest importance that persons attending on cattle should be conversant with the earliest symptoms of the disease, and be on the look-out to detect it.

The report proceeds to specify the symptoms and pathological conditions of the infected animals; and, remarking that rinderpest is a disease of low type, and the tendency to death is by exhaustion, so that violent and lowering treatment is wholly inadmissible, the report proceeds to offer the following as a safe and simple mode of treatment, which has led to recoveries under their own eyes, and which seems worthy of a fair and extensive trial:—

- The animal should, as soon as the disease is detected, be separated from other cattle and placed in a comfortable out-house, byre, loose box, or stable, well ventilated, but not cold. If wooden sheds be used they should be so constructed as to admit of being easily kept warm—say at a temperature of about 70 deg. The greatest attention must, of course, be paid to cleanliness. The manure should be frequently removed, and all of it submitted to the action of disinfectants, of which the best is the chloride of lime (bleaching powder).
- It is of great importance to promote the circulation of the skin and to restore the natural heat of the surface. For this purpose the animal should be carefully and vigorously rubbed down and then covered with a warm rug. Warm drinks of gruel, bran-tea, or hay-tea should be copiously administered, and these should constitute the only food of the animal in the early stage. The animal, which is generally thirsty, may be allowed as much cold water as it wishes. Stimulant diaphoretics and diuretics will also be found useful as tending to promote the action of the skin and kidneys, and thus to relieve internal congestion and to aid in eliminating the poison of the disease from the system. Dr. Smart's formula is two ounces of the Aqua acetatis ammonica (Mindererus' spirit), with one ounce of sweet spirits of nitre; and with this he combines, as a stimulant, six drachms of the carbonate of ammonia in nine ounces of water. This may be given three times in the day.
- The loaded state of the alimentary canal, which is so constant an occurrence in rinderpest, requires to be relieved by the use of mild, laxative medicines, given very early in the disease. But strong saline and drastic purgatives must on no account be used, as their action would not only exhaust the animal's strength, but would prove most injurious by the irritation it would occasion to the mucous lining of the intestines in its highly congested and tender state. Professor Dick prefers as a laxative linseed oil, in doses of sixteen ounces, to which he adds half a nutmegkin of whisky. Dr. Smart recommends a laxative consisting of two ounces of sulphur, one ounce of nitre, one ounce of powdered ginger, and one pound of treacle with water to make a quart. Whatever of these laxatives be given, it must be repeated at intervals of some hours till a full effect has been produced. In some cases scouring (diarrhoea) proves a troublesome symptom, for the relief of which Professor Dick recommends the use of lime water in doses of a quart, to which he adds from half an ounce to an ounce of laudanum, and this he gives three times a day till the diarrhoea has been subdued. The use of stimulants should follow upon these remedies, or, if need be, they may be given simultaneously with them. The carbonate of ammonia is that which seems to act most beneficially, and this may be given in six drachm doses, three times a day. To promote convalescence tonics are prescribed. These may consist of either sulphate of iron in half-ounce doses, given twice a day, as recommended by Professor Dick, or of powder of cinchona in doses of one ounce and a half, given once a day, as recommended by Dr. Smart.

### The Committee add—

That they entertain no prejudice for or against any particular system of treatment: they desire authentic information. They do not believe in any specific for the cure of rinderpest. They believe that in this as in all other diseases sound pathological knowledge of the disease constitutes the only reliable basis for safe or successful treatment. They believe further that the treatment they have recommended can only prove successful if all the items be carefully and faithfully carried out in practice, whether as regards diet, regimen, tending, or medicine.

Mr. Jas. Caird sends from the Hague an account of the measures adopted by the Dutch Government in dealing with the cattle plague. Its commencement in Holland, he says, is clearly traced to a cargo of cattle returned from England (the price having been deemed unsatisfactory) in the beginning of August. These animals were distributed among the pastures near Schiedam, and in the neighbourhood of Rotterdam. The most successful treatment is said to have been by homœopathy. This has been practised by two Belgian practitioners, who volunteered their services to the Dutch Government. By them 50 per cent of the animals which were sick had been cured. By the other treatment 25 per cent have recovered. About 1169 cattle have died, and 674 have been slaughtered.

**LOSS AND RECOVERY OF £500.**—An agent of Earl Vane, on leaving Sunderland, dropped in a cab in which he rode to the railway station a parcel containing £500 in bank notes. Unaware of his loss, the agent left the town by train, and the cabman, unconscious of the treasure contained in his vehicle, went to look out for other "fares." A heavy rain fell brought him numerous customers; but, although some of them were of a "rough" sort, the parcel remained undisturbed in the cab, and its presence was not discovered until the straw was removed from the bottom on clearing out the vehicle for the night. The cabman, being an honest man, at once handed over the money to the care of the police, and on its being restored to its owner, was rewarded with a gift of £25.

**PRUSSIA AND SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.**—An official statement has just appeared at Berlin of the conclusions arrived at by the Crown lawyers commissioned at the close of last year to examine all the questions of right bearing upon the possession of the Elbe duchies. Various contradictory reports have been hitherto circulated as to the actual tenor of this opinion, but the following may now be safely taken as its general purport:—"The commissioners have come to the conclusion: That the succession law for the Danish monarchy of July 31, 1853—according to which the succession to the throne in its entirety over the lands united under the King's sceptre was transferred to the then Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Sonderburg-Glücksburg, now King Christian IX. of Denmark—has legally settled the hereditary succession to the three countries. That, further, King Christian IX. has ceded, by the peace of Oct. 30, 1864, the rights to the three duchies appertaining to him to the Crowns of Prussia and Austria; and that the two allied Powers, in disposing of the duchies, are not bound to recognise other hereditary claims. It follows from these resolutions that the question does not in any degree whatever depend upon elucidation of formerly existing hereditary rights. In compliance, however, with his Majesty's command, the Crown lawyers have gone into these also. Reserving more detailed communications as to this examination, it may be stated at present that, with regard to the Augustenburg claims, the Commissioners have come to the following legal conclusions:—That Duke Christian Augustus, of Augustenburg (the father), by the treaty of renunciation, with regard to the succession to the two duchies, concluded between him (for himself and his heirs) and the Danish Crown, upon Dec. 30, 1852, has receded behind King Christian IX., and that Sovereign's male posterity. That the hereditary Prince Frederick of Augustenburg, as matter of course, cannot exercise the dormant right of his father in his stead. That, lastly, the said Prince, after his father's decease, cannot lay claim to a privileged right of succession to the duchies."

organised some sort of law, and set on foot industries as well as habits and customs which are a part of their nationality; it must be conceded that whatever foundation formerly existed for this belief has now been destroyed, and they have proved that, in addition to the enterprise which is required to explore a new country, they have the ability which can retain it while it is converted into a new centre of civilisation and commerce.

There is no more remarkable example of what this enterprise has been able to effect than that territory of the Soudan, of which we said something in a former Number, and the recent events in which form the subjects of our present illustrations.

In going up the Nile, which, as our readers know, flows from the south to the north, the traveller comes in due course to the town of Khartoum,

an agglomeration of comparatively modern buildings, the rapid but eph-

stem determination in the face of every man who takes a part in it—a whiff of life and vigour strangely set off against that one figure, who has received his death-wound, and still clings to the harness of the horse, which has been battered with mud and grime. The picture which we have engraved, French are so fond—and which could scarcely fail to become popular here also, if English art lay in the direction of producing them. In the first place, they are records of those great battles which unhappily form so large a part of national histories; and, secondly, all the French galleries have to show some such work, executed with a wonderful living power that carries the spectator away with the subject, and transports him for a moment into the very rush and din of war, amidst the fusillade of the muskets, the thunder of artillery, the clatter of hoofs, and the sudden rush and fury of men and horses. Some of these

pictures may show too vividly the gaudy and attractive side of war; but they show, too, its reality—its breathless hurry and fierce onslaught, when all the gold is crimsoned with blood, and the gay uniforms are stained and

exhibited in the Fine-Art Exhibition in Paris, and the work of M. Schreyer, M. Schreyer had not been placed beyond dispute by two former paintings—“The Prince de Taxis Wounded at Temesvar” and the “Horses in the Snow!” The present work is fully equal in execution to those of preceding years, and its subject commands a still wider interest, since it depicts an episode in the greatest European war of recent times. With what a wonderful fury of attack is that artillery-train urged on! What a wild mêlée of horses and men! What a fierce rush, only half restrained by discipline, and yet with

### “THE CHARGE OF THE ARTILLERY OF THE GUARD AT THE BATTLE OF TRAKTIR.”

OUR Engraving represents one of those marvellous pictures of which the French are so fond—and which could scarcely fail to become popular here also, if English art lay in the direction of producing them. In the first place, they are records of those great battles which unhappily form so large a part of national histories; and, secondly, all the French galleries have to show some such work, executed with a wonderful living power that carries the spectator away with the subject, and transports him for a moment into the very rush and din of war, amidst the fusillade of the muskets, the thunder of artillery, the clatter of hoofs, and the sudden rush and fury of men and horses. Some of these



“CHARGE OF ARTILLERY OF THE FRENCH GUARD IN THE BATTLE OF TRAKTIR DURING THE CRIMEAN WAR.” (FROM A PICTURE BY M. SCHREYER.)

attached to their French visitors—furnishing them with all the requisite assistance in completing the station and preparing to cultivate the soil and establish themselves in their new homes. Around Konifid there are more than 20,000 of these people, whose life has known little change for centuries; but, according to French account, they are always ready to help their new friends, or even to take up arms to repulse an enemy. These people have, of course, been the principal labourers in the new colony, since they quickly recognised not only the advantages of improved methods of industry, but also the strength they would acquire against the raids of the Egyptians by enlisting the cannons and carbines of their French allies.

Another neighbour, whose good graces the Count has been particularly careful to cultivate, is His Majesty Theodore, the Emperor of Abyssinia, of whom

we have unfortunately heard so much in connection with the imprisonment of our own Consul and other Englishmen. It would appear that the soldier frankness with which Count du Bisson stated his intentions was met with

tory is brought under the influence of civilisation. This new colony is due to the courage and enterprise of the Count R. du Bisson, who, having already distinguished himself in a military career, set out some years ago with a hundred of his old companions in arms—their African experiences—in order to explore the strange land for their own advantage and the glory of France. After having studied the language of the country and interested the Viceroy of Egypt in their scheme, Count du Bisson and his party proceeded up the Nile past Khartoum, and took possession of a portion of the country, where they intended to found their new colony. The Count was well received by the natives, who had been represented to him as savage barbarians, but who turned out, on a better acquaintance, to be, if anything, a good deal more civilised than most of the Egyptians of the province, with whom sworn friends are only recognised while it is to their interest not to violate their oaths.

The name of the place where this flag has been erected is Konifid, where a great establishment is already in course of formation, and will probably increase until its success becomes certain and the whole surrounding ter-

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confidence on the part of this rather capricious and half-civilised monarch, who has gone so far as to praise the establishment of the colony, with which at present he remains on the best of terms—letters of friendship having been exchanged, that of the Emperor being duly impressed with the great seal of Abyssinian authority. One of the great sources of commerce in this new colony will be the spoils taken from the desert in the shape of skins of wild animals and the grease of the hippopotamus; so that the occupations of the French residents will combine the chase with agriculture, which is already in a high state of efficiency, and is well applied to a district which only requires ordinary operations to render it one of the most fertile in the world, and is watered by a river sufficient to ensure its continued irrigation. Amongst the most prominent productions of the land are the sorgho, which is so rich in saccharine that it will probably supersede a portion of the sugar-cane; the tñer, a kind of grain giving a white flour requiring no bolting; the dobro, or gigantic millet, used for native food; oniga, a large and prolific kind of potato; fine tobacco; indigo, which is found almost everywhere; coffee, the plants of which have been brought from Mocha, and the produce of which now comes to Europe as Mocha coffee; and also several oleaginous plants and a variety of textiles. Besides these, there are vast quantities of gum.

## T H E F R E N C H I N A B Y S S I N I A.



THE COUNTESS DU BISSON ON HER JOURNEY TO KOUFFITH.

producing aromatic, and beautiful woods, as well as great forests of timber for building purposes, and mimosa, citrons, dates, oranges, bananas, and olives, all of which grow in that rich soil and splendid climate. It will, therefore, be seen that there is ample opportunity for European industry, and we may well expect to hear before long of the progress of a colony which has begun under such exceptional conditions.

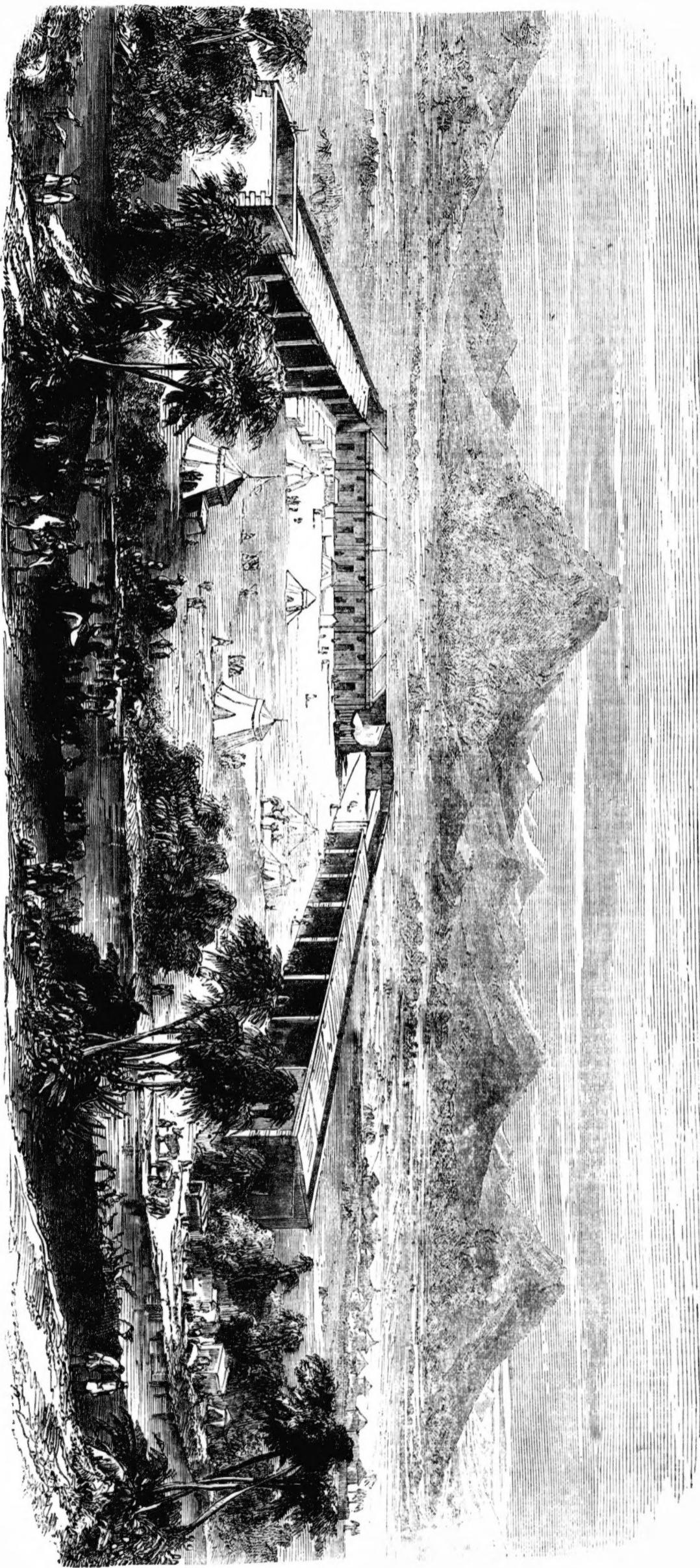
The difficulties which were reported to lie in the way of the route has not prevented Countess du Bissou from joining her husband. This lady started from Khartoum and performed the journey on the only known road, which, although it was beset with perils and could not be traversed without great fatigue, she passed in safety. One of the earliest efforts of the colonists will probably be the opening of a shorter and safer route than that which already exists from Khartoum.

There is nothing to prevent this station from becoming the centre of a new colony, if not of a new nation; for, with a friendly population, a vast extent of marvellously-fertile country, native flocks and herds, already sufficient to supply every want, and the opportunity for adapting modern inventions to all the operations of production, there are attractions which may well offer inducements to emigrants who desire to join the first adventurers in their new region.

TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE BA'RAS AND COUNT DU BISSON.



TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE BA'RAS AND COUNT DU BISSON.



VIEW OF THE FRENCH ENCAMPMENT AT KOUFFITH.

## THE OPERA.

On the whole, the Royal English Opera will open this year under very favourable circumstances, and with the largest, and probably the best, orchestra ever brought together in London. The list of singers cannot, it is true, be considered complete with the names absent of our best tenor and our best baritone. We understand, however, that an invitation was offered to Mr. Sims Reeves to join the company, which, by reason of the numerous engagements he had already entered into, he was unable to accept. It was known that Mr. Santley had signed a treaty with Mr. Mapleson, or the directors would, no doubt, have endeavoured to secure his services. Mr. Reeves and Mr. Santley are so much better than all our other singers, in their respective departments, that to form a company without either Mr. Santley or Mr. Reeves being included in it seems, at first sight, little short of an absurdity. Great hopes, however, are entertained of Mr. Charles Adams, a tenor, who comes from the Berlin Theatre, and who sang last year at the Royal English Opera, in "Masaniello;" while Mr. Alberto Laurence, the principal baritone of the establishment, is known to possess a good voice and excellent intentions. Among the minor tenors Mr. Haigh stands first. Among the baritones and basses Mr. Corri, a vigorous singer and a very humorous actor, holds an important place.

The company is very strong in the soprano—especially the light soprano—department. Miss Louisa Pyne and Mme. Lemmens-Sherrington are now, we believe, for the first time engaged at the same theatre. The effect of their appearing together in "L'Africaine" will be, simply, that the two principal female parts in that opera will, taking them together, be better played than they have ever been before. The following will be the cast of "L'Africaine," on Saturday, the opening night:—Selika, Miss Louisa Pyne; Inez, Mme. Lemmens-Sherrington; Anna, Mrs. Aynsley Cook; Nelusko, Mr. Alberto Laurence; Don Pedro, Mr. Henri Corri; Grand Inquisitor, Mr. Aynsley Cook; Don Diego, Mr. Eugene Dussek; High Priest of Brahma, Mr. J. G. Patey; Don Alvar, Mr. Charles Lyell; and Vasco di Gama, Mr. Charles Adams.

The next novelty will be "Ida," a new opera by Mr. Henry Leslie. The characters in "Ida" will be represented by Mlle. Ida Gillies, Mlle. Cornelis, Mrs. Aynsley Cook, Messrs. J. G. Patey, Henri Corri, W. H. Cummings, Charles Lyell, Aynsley Cook, Eugene Dussek, and R. Arthur. Mlle. Ida Gillies is from the Paris Conservatoire, and makes her first appearance in English opera. She is a pupil of Auber, which should at least be a guarantee for good teaching. Mr. W. H. Cummings will make his débüt on the stage on this occasion. Towards the end of December a new opera, in one act, entitled "Christmas Eve," by Mr. Charles Diffell, will be given. The parts in "Christmas Eve" will be sustained by Mme. Florence Lancia, Mme. Emma Heywood, Mr. David Miranda, and Mr. Aynsley Cook. "Lalla Rookh," an opera by M. Félicien David (author of "Le Désert," "Herculanum," &c.), is announced for production in the course of the season. The characters have been assigned to Miss Louisa Pyne, Mme. Florence Lancia, Messrs. Henri Corri, Charles Lyell, Aynsley Cook, and Henry Haigh. Further, "if time should permit, another work, new to the English lyric stage, by either a native or a foreign composer, will be placed before the public."

A lover of coincidences, who apparently is not a lover of music, has discovered that France is always visited by the cholera after the production of one of Meyerbeer's operas. How delighted Heine would have been if this idea had occurred to him when he was attacking and ridiculing Meyerbeer in the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, and how maliciously he would have varied it and enlarged upon it! At that time Meyerbeer had only brought out two operas on the French stage, "Robert le Diable," in 1831, and "Les Huguenots," in 1836. Both, however, were followed by Asiatic cholera. "La Prophète" (1848) also brought cholera in its train, and the first season of the long-deferred "Africaine" resembles in this respect the first seasons of Meyerbeer's other operas. The same fatal attendant waited upon "L'Etoile du Nord" and "Le Pardon de Ploërmel" ("Dinorah"); but Meyerbeer's minor works do not seem to have provoked its fury in anything like the same degree as his operas in five acts. The worst attack followed the production of "Robert le Diable," the first and perhaps the greatest of Meyerbeer's grand operas; while the attack of the "Dinorah" year was so slight that we must admit, for our part, that until now we never heard of it. The success of "L'Africaine" is sufficient to cause great alarm, and to render the strictest sanitary precautions necessary.

It appears, from a book called "Petites Archives des Théâtres des Paris," which has just been published, that during the last ten years "La Favorita" has been played in Paris 157 times, "Les Huguenots" 145 times, "Robert le Diable" 114 times, "Lucia" 143 times, "William Tell" 147, and "Il Trovatore" 130 times.

**DEATH OF MR. W. VINCENT WALLACE.**—This eminent lyric composer died, on the evening of Thursday, the 12th inst., at the Château de Bagne, Haute Garonne, Pyrenees, whither he had been removed about a month before from Paris-Passy. Mr. Wallace has for many years been subject to intermittent and frequently dangerous attacks of illness originating in dropsical tendency, and for the last twelve months has not been able to leave his bed. Reduced to extreme weakness by this long-contained confinement, accompanied with almost incessant bodily agony, which he bore with the most admirable fortitude, Mr. Wallace was advised by the eminent French physician Dr. Bonillard to try the effect of the air of the Pyrenees. This was a last resource, and, as it proved, an unavailing one. Mr. Wallace leaves a widow and two young boys. The deceased gentleman was fifty-three years of age.

**A NOBLE LIFE-BOAT.**—The following is an account of the important services rendered during gales of wind by the Ramsgate life-boat, in conjunction with the harbour steam-tugs, in saving life and property on the Goodwin and the neighbouring sandbanks, during the past eleven years:—The brig Wilhelmina and her crew saved; the barque Queen of the Teign and her crew saved; six lives saved from the schooner Marie; the schooner Pauline and her crew saved; six lives saved from the schooner Jessie Annie; the brig Bartley and schooner Sophie, vessels and crews saved; eight lives rescued from the barque George Forster; sixteen lives saved from the barque Kilby; the brig Hedwig Amalia and Ida and their crews saved; eighteen lives rescued from a Portuguese brig; the schooner Wish and her crew saved; schooner Sultan, ditto; the barque Martha, ditto; brig Quickstep, ditto; four lives rescued from a schooner in Pegwell Bay; seventeen lives saved from the Spanish brig Samaritano; the schooner Omnibus and her crew saved; the schooner Jane, ditto; nine lives rescued from the barque Linda; thirteen lives rescued from the barque Ariel; the brig Bradford and her crew saved; the barque Cereal, ditto; the brig Norma, ditto; four lives rescued from the ketch Mary; the brig Annie and her crew saved; one hundred and twenty lives saved from the ship Fusilier; nineteen lives rescued from the ship Demerara; five lives saved from the brig Royal Thistle; five lives rescued from the brig Clancy; the barque Clayton and her crew saved; and eleven lives saved from the brig Las Tres Hermanos. It will be seen that, in addition to saving eighteen ships from destruction, this valuable life-boat has, in conjunction with the steam-tugs, rescued probably four hundred lives from a watery grave. Such noble services performed by one life-boat are unparalleled in the history of the dangerous life-boat work. The Ramsgate life-boat is a self-righting one, like the boats of the National Life-boat Institution, and was invented and built by the late Mr. James Beeching, of Great Yarmouth. She was bought of him by the Harbour Commissioners of Ramsgate, and was transferred by them, along with the harbour, to the control of the Board of Trade. The life-boat is now unfit for further service, and is to be replaced by a magnificent life-boat, the gift of the people of Bradford to the National Life-boat Institution. She is being built by the Messrs. Forrest, and is expected to be on her station about Christmas. Much of the success, under Providence, of the Ramsgate life-boat is undoubtedly due to her gallant and devoted crew, who have never faltered for a moment, during the fiercest midnight storms, in going afloat in the boat when the huge waves were rolling like mountains over the sands, and when they often expected that they and their noble craft would be engulfed in the whirlpool. It is a remarkable fact that not a soul has ever been lost from the life-boat. The late Captain Martin, acting under the Harbour Commissioners; Captain Walker, H.C.S. of the Board of Trade; and Captain Shaw, the present Harbour Master at Ramsgate, have always been indefatigable in their efforts in making the Ramsgate life-boat establishment complete in every way; and we pray that the same splendid success will attend, under God, the new life-boat of the National Life-boat Institution.

**THE NEW RECORD OFFICE.**—Great progress has recently been made in the works for the erection of the east wing of the new Record Office, a large section of the frontage in Fetter-lane having been completed within the last few days. It is intended to make suitable and commodious approaches from Farrington-street, Holborn, Fleet-street, and the Strand, thereby, in accordance with the plans for the new law courts in that locality, clearing away a number of unwholesome courts and alleys, as well as a portion of Clare-market, with Clement's-lane and its purloins.

## SANITARY STATE OF LONDON.

DR. LETHEBY, Medical Officer of Health for the City of London, has just issued his report on the sanitary condition of his district during the quarter ending last month. He states that of the 587 deaths which took place in the City 241 occurred in the eastern division, 148 in the western, and 198 in the central. These are in the annual proportions of 23·3 per 1000 of the inhabitants of the eastern union, 22·1 of the western, and a little more than 17 of the central—the general average for the whole of the City being 20·5.

In the course of the last ten years the death rate, in the summer quarter, has been at an annual rate of 21·2 per 1000 of the City population, while in the districts comprising the chief towns of England it is about 22·5 per 1000, and in all England it is just 20 per 1000. This indicates a satisfactory state of the public health, and the same indication is also furnished by the sickness returns from the medical officers of the City unions. It is, Dr. Letheby states, an important condition in the consideration of cholera, which we are bound to make. We must remember that in the three great epidemics of 1831-2 and 1848-9 there were three facts which came prominently before us:—1. There was an unusual outbreak of the disease in India, where it showed itself in an epidemic form; and this lasted a year or two before it made its appearance in Europe. 2. The course of the disease was always from India, in a north-westerly direction, through Russia and by the Baltic, into one or more of our eastern ports. 3. At the time of its appearance among us there was a large amount of zymotic disease, especially diarrhoea and dysentery.

At present, however, there are none of these significant forewarnings of an approaching epidemic. Again, in both of the former visitations of the disease, the course of it has been from the north-western provinces of India, through Persia, and along the western shores of the Caspian Sea to Astracan, where it has rested for some time. It has then traversed Russia by the Volga and its tributaries, and has reached Moscow in September. Here it has again halted for the winter, and in the following spring it has moved forward in a north-westerly direction, and has arrived at St. Petersburg in the months of June or July. It has then branched off in two directions—north-westerly through Finland, and by the Gulf of Bothnia into the north of Sweden, where it has soon exhausted itself; and south-westerly by the Baltic into Sweden, Prussia, and Denmark, and so across the German Ocean into one or more of the ports on the eastern coast of England. On the present occasion, however, the course of the epidemic has been confined almost entirely to the eastern shores of the Mediterranean; and it appears to have acquired its virulence among the pilgrims who were assembled at Mecca and upon Mount Ararat, to celebrate the Mussulman festival of Kourban-Bairam, or the Festival of Sacrifice. Some of the devotees had journeyed from India, and had brought with them the germs of the disease. Indeed, it is said that in one of the ships, while off Moculla, on the Arabian coast, as many as eighty of the pilgrims died of cholera. It was thus carried to the Holy Places; and it would seem from official reports that not less than 40,000 persons died from it—private accounts say 100,000, but this is perhaps an exaggeration. There is no doubt, however, that the disease was severely fatal, and that it assumed an epidemic character; for soon after the pilgrims began to disperse it appeared at Alexandria, which is only separated from the northern extremity of the Red Sea by the narrow Isthmus of Suez; indeed, it is possible that it may have crossed the Red Sea at Mecca, and have gone down the Nile by its western branch, for, contemporaneously with its appearance at Alexandria, early in June, it showed itself at Rosetta and the neighbouring villages of Tanta and Zagazig. At Alexandria the outbreak was in the poorest and filthiest quarter of the city—namely, in the north-western suburbs, near to the railway-station, where there is a mixed population of Arabs, Turks, and Greeks; and it seems that the city was in a fit condition to welcome the pestilence, for not only was the temperature high and the filth abundant, but the canal of the Nile from which the city is supplied with water was more than ordinarily polluted. There had been a fatal sickness among the cattle, and their carcasses were thrown into the river; as many as 700 of them in a state of putrefaction were seen in it at one time. It is therefore not surprising that the epidemic increased in violence, although its force was chiefly expended in the crowded and dirty parts of the city, for it hardly touched the cleaner quarters, in which the Europeans reside. On the 17th of June it had moved inwards, by the river, to Cairo, and soon afterwards it returned, by the eastern arm of the Nile, to Damietta, where it was remarkably fatal. It then crossed the eastern extremity of the Mediterranean to Smyrna, which it reached on June 24, and four days afterwards it had turned back upon Cyprus. Early in July, about the 10th, it was at Constantinople and the villages of the Bosphorus; and a little later it was at Ancona, in Italy, and at Malta. From Malta, where it was very severe, it soon passed to the neighbouring island of Gozo, and thence to Catania, Palermo, and Trapani, which are coast towns of Sicily. It may therefore be concluded that for the present the epidemic is confined not only to the basin of the Mediterranean, but chiefly to the eastern end of it; and that as yet it has shown but little tendency to move northward and westward into Europe. So far, then, the prospect is hopeful; but yet it can hardly be said that the danger is altogether past; for if on the return of spring the disease should again appear at Constantinople, and should creep along the eastern coast of the Black Sea, it may take its usual route by the Danube into Europe, and so reach us from the western States of Germany. It may also reappear upon the northern shores of the Mediterranean, and thence travel into Italy, France, or Spain. Everywhere we perceive that the haunts of cholera are the haunts of wretchedness and filth—that the strongholds of the disease are in the crowded and ill-conditioned quarters of the poor—that where fever, and plague, and all the exanthemata abound, there also does cholera appear in its greatest force—that, in fact, although there is some capriciousness in its manifestations, yet it implicitly obeys the laws of other epidemics, and strikes hardest where there are poverty and filth, and ignorance and fear. This has been but too fully illustrated by the havoc of the disease in the poorer quarters of Alexandria, Cairo, Smyrna, and Constantinople.

Dr. Whitmore, Medical Officer of Health, in his monthly report, presented on Saturday last to the Marylebone Representative Council, although he speaks of a similar low return of mortality in his district, urgently draws the attention of the council to the dreadful sanitary state of one part of it. The report states—

Crawford-place, a narrow court running from Crawford-street into Homer-street, is beyond all comparison the filthiest and most deplorable wretched spot in the parish. Within it are six small dilapidated tenements, which it is almost a fiction to say give shelter to between sixty and seventy human beings. These poor people are reported by the owners of the property as most depraved in their habits and morals, and utterly unworthy of sympathy. I know that a great many of them are in extreme destitution, and rarely do we find the two extremes of vice and poverty closely allied. One poor emaciated woman I found engaged in slop-work, and her sad tale, not obtrusively, but hesitatingly, told, was this:—Her husband, by trade a plasterer, was sick in the hospital. She had four young children to maintain; and by sitting up four nights out of seven she could earn about seven shillings per week, three of which went to her landlord for rent. I suggested an application to the parish for relief; her reply was, "I cannot get relief unless I go into the workhouse, and rather than do that I will starve here." A second poor creature occupied a room stripped of every article of furniture; all her goods, with the exception of a bundle of dirty rags which served as her bed, having been seized for arrears of rent. In this case an additional and somewhat novel expedient for ejecting an unprofitable tenant had been resorted to—the grate had actually been taken out of the fireplace; but this cunning device was not successful, for a fire had been made without it. Taking into consideration the intolerably dirty and ruinous state of these houses, and the absence of every requisite to health or comfort, I could have no difficulty in certifying them to be unfit for human habitation; but I shrink from the responsibility of turning so large a number of destitute persons into the open street, who would find the greatest difficulty in procuring shelter elsewhere. I prefer to exhaust all the powers of the law in compelling the owners of this property to put it into proper sanitary and habitable condition; and should that fail, it will then be my painful duty, in the interest of public health, to resort to the other alternative. Property of this description, let out in separate rooms to weekly tenants, constitutes a most profitable investment, the amount of profit varying, of course, with the degree of firmness and dinty determination exercised in collecting the rents. It may truly be said that the poor of London pay dearly for most of the necessities of life, but in nothing are they

more highly and unequally taxed than in the article of house-rent. Some comprehensive enactment that would sweep away the wretched hovels, or, as they are appropriately termed, "fever nests," that abound in every district in this metropolis, and replace them by lofty, well-constructed buildings, appropriate to the wants and requirements of the poor, might be regarded as an arbitrary and despotic measure; but the great good it would accomplish in the saving of human life alone is incalculable.

## THE PARKS OF LONDON.

REGENT'S PARK, which derives its name from its having been made during the regency of George IV., contains upwards of 400 acres. It and Primrose-hill—the area of which is sixty-three acres—are under the care of Mr. Edwards, chief superintendent. The ground now occupied by this park was originally known as "Marylebone Farm and Fields." It was laid out as a public park in 1812, from designs by Mr. Nash, the architect, who also built some of the fine terraces by which it is surrounded. Unlike the other parks, this contains within its boundaries several handsome private residences, surrounded by picturesque pleasure-grounds. Owing to the nature of the soil, and there being less traffic over it, the grass here generally looks greener than it does in Hyde Park. It is let to one person, who takes in sheep from the butchers in the neighbourhood. There are eighteen or twenty acres of water, on which boats are to be had for hire, and where angling from the banks is permitted at all times while the gates are open.

Within the last two or three years this park has been greatly improved and embellished by the construction of what are known as the Avenue-gardens—from the south end of the Broad-walk to Chester-road, which is opposite Chester-terrace, and leads to the Botanical Gardens—which have been completed to the extent of some four acres on each side of the walk. The portion of the park which is bounded by Park-square Gardens, Chester-road, Chester-terrace, and the Broad-walk, is now being laid out in ornamental grounds, with kept turf, clumps of evergreens, and flower-beds. There are about six acres in this piece of park land. Should the weather prove favourable, the whole will be completed by next spring.

Some years since it was proposed to make an equestrian ride from Park-square West, alongside the Broad-walk, passing Holford House, and coming out near what was formerly the Marquis of Hertford's villa. Some of the neighbours and inhabitants of the adjacent and surrounding terraces were for and some against this proposal. Eventually the authorities decided against it, and properly; for it would have seriously detracted from the appearance of the park, as well as from its fitness for pedestrian exercise and recreation. The want, however, of a Rotten-row in Regent's Park is felt throughout a district of considerable extent, and there is a portion of the park which would be improved by being converted into one. From Gloucester-gate, round St. Catherine's Villa, to Park-square, a gently-curved ride of nearly a mile in extent could easily be designed. It might be made a great improvement on the present continuous wooden-railed circle round the park if clumps of shrubs were judiciously planted at each side.

The Broad-walk is now beginning to present a grand appearance, from its length and the height and beauty which the trees on each side have attained. From a point on the rising ground, south of the pretty fountain that was erected some time since, the most favourable view of the hotel at the end of Portland-place can be obtained—as, seen from the place indicated, it looks as if it were built expressly as a splendid termination to this fine walk.

On Primrose-hill, which is under the same management as Regent's Park—namely, that of Mr. Edwards—a new walk has been finished within the last few weeks, from near the waterworks reservoir, in a south-easterly direction, to Albert-terrace, Albert-road. It is about 700 or 800 yards in length. A couple of those iron-works that one sees occasionally near cab-stands in the streets would not be out of place on Primrose-hill. On the south side of the hill there is a fine open-air gymnasium, which is more frequented than any other in London. It is a great pity that some attempt is not made, before it is too late, to connect Regent's Park with Hampstead-heath, by means of a carriage drive which might be brought round the lower parts of Primrose-hill, through the handsome piece of road, with the fine old trees on each side of it, from Belsize Park to Haverstock-hill, and so on to Hampstead. A rather novel suggestion has been made as to Primrose-hill, which is neither more nor less than that a donkey Rotten-row, with model asses and equipments, and well-dressed, respectable attendants should be established there. And there is little doubt that, if women and children only were allowed to ride, the innovation would be highly appreciated by the majority of the frequenters of Primrose-hill.

**ENGLAND AND AMERICA.**—In order to guard against any misunderstanding, we are requested to restate that the proposal of Earl Russell to the American Government was conveyed in the following words:—"Her Majesty's Government are ready to consent to the appointment of a commission to which shall be referred all claims arising during the late civil war which the two Powers shall agree to refer 'to the commissioners.' These concluding words limit the subject of reference, since it would be inconsistent with the position taken up by her Majesty's Government and with the arguments which induced it to decline arbitration to permit the claims for losses by the Alabamas and other vessels of the same character to be brought before a commission for decision. It must be understood, therefore, that, if any such commission were agreed on, those cases would be excluded from its jurisdiction.—*Times*.

**A RIOT AT MUNICH.**—On the evening of the 8th of October there were very grave disturbances at Munich. A young fellow was arrested by a gendarme for singing improper songs in the street, and the crowd interfered on behalf of the prisoner. The gendarme, hooted and pelted, drew his sword, and in defending himself wounded a boy. This made the spectators still more furious, and the gendarme, in terror of his life, sought refuge in the Westendhalle, a well-known casino, and managed to escape in plain clothes by back door. Meanwhile the people were shouting for him outside. Troops arrived from all parts of the city, and the President of the Government, after in vain entreating the mob to disperse, ordered the soldiers to charge. This cleared the street for a time, but the people quickly returned, and in a second charge by the troops, with fixed bayonets and drawn swords, a number of people were wounded. Several arrests were made.

**AMERICAN FINANCE.**—The American national debt, representing exactly the cost of the war, is just £600,000,000. In the estimates for the ensuing year the expenditure (£70,000,000) is reckoned with a liberality verging upon extravagance, but about the revenue (£60,000,000 expected from "internal revenue" must be of doubtful certainty, and the item is all the more enigmatical from its very comprehensiveness. Its two chief ingredients must be income tax and excise, but in what proportions we are left to conjecture. As yet the Americans have never raised as much as £30,000,000 from "internal revenue"; they only estimated their receipts at £25,000,000 in the last year for which accounts are made up. Borrowing has ceased, and paying is to begin. The machinery of taxation is in good order and is to be worked at full power, so as to produce, not only the whole revenue required for the public service, but £10,000,000 a year for a sinking fund besides.

**MOONLIGHT AND DISEASE.**—The moon's brightness is evidence of the absence of clouds and of condensed vapours in the atmosphere. Such circumstances are highly favourable to the radiation of heat from the earth and from things animate and inanimate on the earth, and, in fact, they produce what are known as early frosts. As the heat radiates from the bodies of men or of animals sleeping in the open air at such periods at a rapid rate, paralysis is not unfrequently induced, or the limbs may become frostbitten. In India this law and fact are well known, and turned occasionally to useful account in wine-cooling, &c. Similar things occur with regard to vegetable productions. Turnips are frozen and plants mildewed by the rapid radiation of heat in a clear atmosphere and under a full moon, whilst the exhalation of fetid gases from decaying animal and vegetable substances is expedited in proportion. We do not assert that the moon is the active agent in effecting these consequences; for its brightness, perhaps, but indicates the existence of an atmosphere highly favourable to their development. Would it not be well to consider duly these circumstances, and to guard cattle against this source of evil? Cattle or sheep, when protected from radiation, escape chills which are the forerunners of disease and death.—*Building News*.

**CURIOS ORNITHOLOGICAL RELIC.**—The ship *Ravenescraig*, Captain D. B. Inglis, of London, just arrived from New Zealand, has brought home a curious relic of the ancient ornithology of those islands, in the form of an egg of the moa, or dinornis of New Zealand. The egg is alleged to have been discovered under somewhat singular circumstances. While some labourers were marking out a site to build upon, in the Wairakihua district, a pick struck upon a cave. On opening it, it was found to contain the skeleton of a Moa, in a crouching position, holding with both hands the egg, and in such a manner as if death had come upon the unfortunate native while in the act of partaking of the contents of the egg. Although the shell is slightly broken, the gigantic proportions of the egg yet remain perfect. It measures about 9 in. in length and 7 in. in diameter.

**LAW AND CRIME.**

WHEN Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., delivered, a few days since, at Sheffield, his manly, outspoken utterances against the tyranny of the trades unions, he was met by denial on the part of the unionists, in the face of notorious facts. Now, Mr. Hughes could scarcely be supposed to be opposed to the interests of working men or ignorant of their customs. He had recently been elected by a constituency of which labourers and mechanics aided materially to form the majority. He was known as a professor (of boxing, by-the-way) at a working man's college. He put forward specific allegations, and was answered only by generalities. Nevertheless, perhaps even Mr. Thomas Hughes has done less to expose the despotism of the unions than two fellows who were, last Saturday, brought up to the Mansion House on a charge of having, contrary to the statute, used threats and intimidation in order to induce certain workmen to leave their employment. The facts are simply these: A Mr. Pritchard, builder of Acorn-street, Bishopsgate, finds it to his interest to employ non-union men as masons. For some time past he has been subjected on this account to threats and interruptions in his business. There can be no doubt upon this point—not even a plausible disclaimer on the part of the unionists. They sent him, on the 30th of last month, a deputation, to demand the discharge from his employ of two of his masons, on the sole ground that the men had refused to join the masons' society. Mr. Pritchard boldly replied that he would submit to no such dictation, and would abide the result. The result was that about a dozen of his men left him forthwith. Then two bullies, named respectively Henevan and Rawson, were hired to waylay the non-unionists on their way to work at Mr. Pritchard's, and to annoy and intimidate them. The language of these hired ruffians (for one of them admitted that he was paid for every minute of his time spent in lounging about and uttering vile oaths and cowardly threats) was of the coarsest and foulest kind, while that of the non-unionists was marked with calmness and discretion. At length the two hulking fellows were given into custody, upon the charge already stated. During the hearing the Lord Mayor declared that, at the restoration of Guildhall, he had seen three masons doing among them one day's work—three men at one job which one man could do; to which Mr. Pritchard added that there was a rule in the society which expressly discouraged men who worked a little faster than ordinary men. The men, said Mr. Pritchard, "do not mind their masters going into the Bankruptcy Court." The Lord Mayor, in giving his decision, made the following observations:—

The case against them of threatening and intimidating the men Shearman and Newton was, in his opinion, conclusively proved, and he should mark his sense of their misconduct. A working man had a right to take his labour and skill, which were his capital, to what he conceived to be the best market, but he had no right to dictate to others the terms and conditions on which they should exercise their handicrafts, or to say to this or that man that if he did not coincide with him in the disposal of his labour he should subject him to personal violence. That was a species of tyranny upon the odium of which he had long pondered, and he could only suppose that the prisoners were men hardly capable of gaining a livelihood in a fair competition with men of their own trade. The witnesses had given their evidence fairly. They were entitled, in such a state of things, to the protection of the law, and that protection, so far as he could afford it, they should receive at his hands. He would say further that if they, or any other workmen within his jurisdiction, should after this be subject to the slightest molestation or intimidation, or be threatened with personal violence, and would only apply to him, they should be protected. There was a large class of working men unconnected with trades unions who simply wanted to earn an honest living by the exercise of their skill and industry. Men like the prisoners combined to prevent them. Such conduct was intolerable.

All this is good reasoning and sensible comment. As such, it could scarcely be expected to weigh much with the trades union tyrants, even if it were reprinted and framed to be hung up in every pot-house committee-room in the United Kingdom. But the practical application of it is far beyond all Sheffield denials, or frothy declamation by the defenders of the system. The two roughs were sentenced each to two months' hard labour, and this may well be expected to prove a salutary lesson to themselves and their fellows.

The calendar of the Middlesex Sessions presents the following table of the relation of crime to education. The prisoners are thus classed. Thirty-six can neither read nor write, fourteen read only, one reads and writes well, none are of superior education, and fifty-eight read and write imperfectly. Upon the face of this statement, it would seem to confirm the old adage as to the danger of a little learning. But perhaps the fact is that most people, even of the criminal class, now read and write imperfectly, and that education and crime are really only correlative in this respect—namely, that a good education is usually the concomitant of means which set their possessor above temptation to indulge acquisitiveness unlawfully, and which also greatly enhance the peril and dread of punishment.

The betting men, driven from Bride-court and other localities in and about the City, have established a kind of gambling fair upon the waste ground near Farringdon-street station. There they have huge umbrellas erected permanently, for the shelter from sun and rain of the useless fraternity. The system has already become worse than a nuisance. No decent person can pass along the road without the peril of insult, assault, or robbery. This week a pedestrian was robbed of his watch, in open day and in the public street, by ruffians who had only to mingle with the betting gang to be at once protected from pursuit and identification.

**POLICE.**

TRAGEDY IN HUMBLE LIFE.—Richard Whiting, aged thirty-six, carman, was brought before Mr. Paget, charged with killing John Lawless, boy aged thirteen years, by driving a laden cart over him.

Rachael Henshaw said—About an hour ago the prisoner was leading two horses along. They were drawing a cart heavily laden. He was at the head of the leading horse. A boy was on the footpath, and Mr. Clark, a butcher, shoved him into the road, and he fell under the wheel, which went over his head. The brains came out of his mouth, and he was killed directly.

Mr. Paget—The wrong man is in the dock.

William Hull, a police constable, said he took the prisoner into custody, and he said he was very sorry—it was not his fault.

George Clark, live-stock dealer and butcher, said he was walking along Shadwell towards Cock-hill. A boy was sweeping the pavement in front of a cookshop, and in passing he pushed against the boy and he fell under the wheel. He did not think it was the carman's fault; he

did not think the carman knew it. It was all done and over before the prisoner could stop his horses.

Mr. Paget—The prisoner is discharged. A loud wail from a woman at the back of the court arrested the attention of every one, and cries from the ushers of "Silence! Turn that woman out! Be quiet!" followed. The police took her by the shoulders, but desisted from further action when she said she was the boy's mother. She threw up her arms, and with all that wild fervour for which the Irish are remarkable, asked if she was not to have justice for the mother of her own dear boy. It was the butcher who killed him, and he was allowed to go away. She called upon Heaven to redress her wrongs, and broke out into loud and long lamentations on the death of her son.

Mr. Paget with difficulty soothed her and asked her to enter the witness-box and be calm for a minute. He expressed his sympathy most feelingly. He was very sorry. The calamity was great and sudden. He could understand her sorrow. She was much to be pitied. He discharged the carman because he did not think he was in fault. If any other person was to blame, justice would be done. The police would take care that the whole case would be opened before a Coroner's jury. The poor and afflicted woman could attend the inquest, and every person who could throw light on the case would be heard.

MIDDLE-CLASS RUFFIANISM.—Mr. Arthur Charles Davis, of No. 52, Albert-street, Mornington-crescent, gentleman, was charged before Mr. Tyrwhitt with assaulting Mr. Charles Mills, a medical student, of No. 53, Guelford-street, Russell-square.

The complainant said he was in the Flying Horse Tavern, Oxford-street, the previous night, when, without the slightest provocation, the defendant knocked him down and struck him several times while he was on the ground. He then sent for the police and gave the defendant into custody.

The defendant asked the complainant whether he had not made remarks about him, and the complainant said he had not.

Mr. Frederick Buswell, of 16, Stamford-street, said he was in the tavern taking a glass of ale, and saw the defendant strike the complainant without any provocation. Both persons were strangers to him, and he had attended at some trouble to himself.

The defendant said the complainant was making remarks over the bar. He asked the complainant if they were meant for him, and he replied, "Yes, if you like." He then invited the complainant to put up his hands, and, on his doing so, he struck him.

Mr. Anthony Hart Davis, brother of the defendant, said he heard the complainant making offensive remarks, saying that persons came to the house and pretended to gentlemen, giving themselves airs. The complainant put up his hands, and then there were blows exchanged between the complainant and his brother.

Mr. Buswell said he did not believe the last witness was present.

Mr. Tyrwhitt said he considered it an unprovoked assault altogether, by a person who, from his dress, one would think would know better.

The defendant was fined 40s., or a month's imprisonment.

**MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.**

THERE has been rather a heavy feeling in the market for Home Securities, and the amount of business doing has, consequently, not increased. In prices, compared with the previous week, the fluctuations have been trifling. Consols, for Money, have marked 88s 8d; Ditto, for Account, 89 to 89½; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 87½; Exchequer Bills, 19c; June, 10s to 5d; Bank Stock has been 246 to 248.

Indian Stocks, &c., have changed hands slowly, at about previous rates. India Stock, 217 to 220; Ditto, Five per Cent, 104½ to 105; Rupee Paper, 160 to 162, and 107 to 109; India Bonds, 104 to 22s; premium.

The supply of money in the General Discount Market is moderately extensive, and the demand for accommodation is tolerably active, at the annexed rates for the best commercial paper:—

Thirty Days' Bills	..	..	..	..	64 per cent.
Sixty Days'	..	..	..	..	71
Three Months'	..	..	..	..	74
Four Months'	..	..	..	..	8
Six Months'	..	..	..	..	84

A full average supply of gold has been sold to the Bank of England, but the imports have been on a moderate scale. The inquiry for foreign purposes has fallen off considerably. However, there may still be some very fine business.

The market for Brazilian Stock has been somewhat heavy, and the quotation is, at 28 to 29 prem. Most other Foreign Securities have been in but moderate request, and, in some instances, prices have shown signs of weakness. Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cent Cents have realized 69 ex div.; Ditto, 1865, 75; Egyptian Seven per Cent, 1864, 91 ex div.; Greek, 19½; Italian Old Five per Cent, 64; Ditto, 1865, 77 ex div.; Mexican Three per Cent, 23; Ditto, 1864, 25½; Portuguese Three per Cent, 46; Ditto, 1863, 45½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 89; Ditto Three per Cent, 1863, 55; Ditto Five per Cent, 1862, 9½; Spanish Passive, 29; Ditto, Certificates, 14½; Turkish Six per Cent, 1858, 71½; Ditto, 1862, 74½; Ditto, Five per Cent, 1865, 43½; and Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent, 61; Turkish Consolos have sold at 48½ to 5.

Joint-stock Bank Shares have been in only moderate request, yet prices have held firm, with an upward tendency. All have risen 3½; Australia, 72½; Bank of Egypt, 31; Bank of Nubia, 10; Chartered Bank, 10; Indian, Australian, and China, 26½; Chartered Mercantile of India, London, and China, 50; Commercial of India and the East, 32½; Consolidated, 19; East London, 4½; Imperial, 29½; Imperial Ottoman, 16; Land Mortgage of India, 4½; London and County, 74; London Joint-Stock, 51½; London and South African, 17; Oriental, 51½; South Australia, 35½; Union of Australia, 54½; and Union of London, 53.

A very moderate business has been done in Colonial Government Securities. Canada Six per Cent have sold at 95½; Ditto Five per Cent, 82½; New South Wales Five per Cent, 90; Queensland Six per Cent, 102½; and Victoria Six per Cent, 106.

The Miscellaneous Market has been rather quiet—Anglo-American Mint, 17½; Atlantic Telegraph, 25; Berlin Waterworks, 11½; Bombay Gas, 5½; Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England, 10½; East India Irrigation and Canal, 9½; Ebb Valley, 14; Egyptian Commercial and Tracing, 130; Forster's Iron Works, 11½; General Credit, 6; General Steam, 13½; Hudson's Bay Co., London; Financial, 27½; London General Omnibus, 25½; Naval Land, 3½; Utrecht, Germany, 10, 18½; Royal Mail Steamer, 11½; East and West India Docks, 134; London and St. Katharine, 77; and Grand Junction Canal, 70.

The Railway Share Market has ruled heavy, at drooping prices.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The arrivals of English wheat having been again very moderate, the demand for both red and white qualities has ruled steady, at fully last week's quotations. Fine foreign wheats have realized quite as much money as of late; but inferior kinds have been much neglected. Floating cargoes of grain have sold steadily, on former terms. Fine barley has been scarce and in request at full prices. Grinding and distilling sorts have commanded very little attention. The malt trade has continued firm, at extreme rates. Oats, though in good supply, have sold steadily, at 6d. per quarter more money. Both beans and peas have maintained their previous value, with a better feeling in the demand, the new change has taken place in the value of flour.

ENGLISH.—Wheat, 38s to 52s; barley, 75s to 37s; malt, 56s to 66s; oats, 19s to 27s; rye, 26s to 28s; beans, 75s to 47s; peas, 35s to 41s per quarter; hops, 18s to 21s; per cent, 100 to 120.

CATTLE.—Prime stock has sold heavily, and in request, on rather higher terms. Inferior stock has sold heavily. Beef, from 3s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; veal, 4d. to 6s. 2d.; veal, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 4d.; pork, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 4d.; veal, 5s. 8d. to sink the offal.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—The trade, generally, has been fair from active, at the annexed quotations—Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 4s. to 6s.; veal, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; and pork, 4s. 2d. to 6s. per slb. by the carcass.

TEA.—There is a fair average business doing in most kinds, and prices are well supported.

SUGAR.—The demand for raw qualities is still active, at 6d. to 1s. per cwt. more money. The stock amounts to 92,309 tons, against 123,348 tons last year. Refined sugars move off freely, at very full prices.

COFFEE.—Most descriptions have changed hands to a moderate extent, at last week's currency. Stock, 13,395 tons, against 13,391 tons in 1864.

RICE.—We have no change to notice in prices, and the market is somewhat inactive. Stock, 23,735 tons, against 34,316 tons last year.

PROVISIONS.—Nearly all kinds of butter continue in fair request, at full quotations. Butter, 1s. 6d. per lb. to 1s. 10d.; cheese, as daily late rates. Hams and sausages still command extreme currencies. In other provisions the quotations are on a moderate scale.

VEGETABLES.—The trade is firm, at full quotations. P.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 4s. 6d. per cwt. Stock, 42,476 cwt., against 47,804 cwt. last year. Rough fat, 2s. 2d. per lb.

OILS.—Lined oil is in fair request, at 23s 10d. per ton. Rape is selling at 4s. 15d. to 5s. 10d.; olive, 5s. 10d. to 6s. 10d.; cocoanut, 4s. 7d. to 5s. 10d.; and fine palm, 4s. 10d. French turpentine is steady, at 4s. per cwt.

SPRITS.—There is only a moderate demand for rum, at last week's quotations. Proof Leewards, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d. per gallon. Brandy sells slowly, but at full prices. Malt spirit, 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d.; British spirit, 11s. 6d. per gallon.

HAY AND STRAW.—Meadow hay, 4s. to 5s. 5d.; clover, 5s. to 6s. 6d.; and straw, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10s. per lb.

COALS.—Best house coals, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d.; other sorts, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d. per cwt.

INDIGESTION, BILIOUS, and LIVER COMPLAINTS are quickly removed by that well-known remedy,

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**THE LONDON GAZETTE.**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13.

BANKRUPTS.—F. TUBBEN, Newcastle-street, merchant.—T. V. WOOD, Newcastle-market dairyman.—C. BURKE, St. Luke's, stationer.—J. DAVIS, Mile-end, hosier.—J. DOGGETT, St. Pancras-street, confectioner, agent.—H. CASTLE, Kensington, cab proprietor.—H. J. DUNLOP, Bloomsbury, violinist.—M. ABRAHAMS, Strand, furniture-dealer.—S. A. BLUNDELL, Commercial-road, hair manufacturer.—A. BRYANT, Camberwell, commission agent.—E. BROOKER, Clerkenwell, carpenter.—G. EYRE, Derby, butcher, fishmonger.—A. R. T. NORMAN, Bermondsey, vocalist.—M. BAILEY, Woolwich, baker.—W. WEST, Ash, Kent, saddler.—C. E. SAUOLLIN, Mortlake, professor of languages.—W. TAYLOR, Hampstead-road, cab-driver.—J. TEVENDALE, Hackney.—J. BRISTOW, Hampstead-road, clerk.—G. BURTON, Islington, cheesemonger's assistant.—C. BLAY, Clerkenwell, gold-chain maker.—W. HARES, New Kent-road, carpenter.—E. G. FOSBERRY, Southwark.—J. KITCHENER, jun., Islington-green, tailor.—E. WITHERS, Bedford-row, jobmaster.—J. MARTIN, Bradley, licensed victualler.—J. BEASLEY, Birmingham, steel manufacturer.—C. C. HICK, Bradford, commission agent.—J. WETH, Middlesbrough schoolmaster.—P. FLETCHER, Newgate-street, wool and hat merchant.—T. CALLOW, Sheffield, engineer.—W. W. BROWN, Liverpool, attorney and solicitor.—J. TAPSON, Liverpool, licensed victualler.—J. HARTKIN, Birkenhead, boot and shoe dealer.—E. M. WARD, Manchester, machine-broker.—J. STRINGER, Droylsden, millwright.—G. NEWKAY, Harborne, licensed victualler.—J. SHEPPARD, Birmingham, tailor's foreman.—J. LANGAN, Liverpool, poulterer.—J. FLANAGAN, Liverpool, boot and shoe maker.—W. ROWDEN, Whitstable, master mariner.—T. JONES, Sedgley, farmer.—G. OAKES, Dewsbury, warehouseman.—J. ELLIOTT, MANCHESTER, turner.—J. W. TURNBULL, Liverpool, travelling draper.—J. JOHNSTON, Liverpool, travelling draper.—W. HUNTER, Wallasey, Crossgreen grocer.—R. TURNBULL, Liverpool, shipbuilder.—J. ELLIS, Leyton, builder.—CORBY, Sharrow, labourer.—H. MOORE, Stafford, joiner.—J. GOODMAN, Cranfield, agricultural labourer.—H. A. NIBLETT, Eastbourne, photographic artist.—H. SLADIN, Ashton-under-Lyne, journeyman millwright.—G. BULLEYMENT, Winterton, butcher.—J. LOGAN, Farnworth, shipwright in her Majesty's dockyard.—C. BENNETT, Shiffield, spring knife manufacturer.

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Ditte, 12 in 12 choice sorts for pots or gardens.

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Spanish Iris splendid, mixed, 50.

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**NATIONAL PORTRAIT EXHIBITION** in 1865.—The Lords of the Committee of Council on Education have determined to hold a National Portrait Exhibition at South Kensington, in the Arcades overlooking the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens, which will be opened in April, 1866.

This Exhibition is based upon the suggestions made by the Earl of Derby, in a letter dated May 6, 1865, from which the following extract is made:—

"I have long thought that a National Portrait Exhibition, chronologically arranged, might not only possess a great historical interest, by bringing together portraits of all the most eminent contemporaries of their respective eras, but might also serve to illustrate the progress and condition, at various periods, of British Art. My idea, therefore, would be to admit either portraits of eminent men, though by inferior or unknown artists, or portraits by eminent artists, though of obscure or unknown individuals. I have, of course, no means of knowing or estimating the number of such portraits which may exist in the country; but I am persuaded that, exclusive of the large collections in many great houses, there are very many scattered about, by ones, and twos, and threes, in private families, the owners of which, though they could not be persuaded to part with them, would willingly spare them for a few months for a public object."

My Lords have constituted a Committee of Advice consisting of the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery and other noblemen and gentlemen.

Mr. Samuel Redgrave, to whose valuable labours the successful formation of the Collection of Portrait Miniatures is chiefly due, has undertaken the special charge of directing the Exhibition; and Mr. Sketchley will act as Secretary.

**ARRANGEMENTS APPROVED FOR THE EXHIBITION.**

1. The exhibition is specially designed to illustrate English History and the progress of Art in England. It may be divided into two or three sections, representing distinct historic periods exhibited in successive years, depending upon the number of the portraits received, and the space available for their proper exhibition.

2. It will comprise the portraits of persons of every class who have in any way attained eminence or distinction in England, from the date of the earliest authentic portrait to the present time; but will not include the portraits of living persons, or portraits of a miniature character.

3. In regard to Art, the works of inferior painters representing distinguished persons will be admitted; while the acknowledged works of eminent artists will be received, though the portraits are unknown or do not represent a distinguished person.

4. The portraits of foreigners who have attained eminence or distinction in England will also be included, with portraits by foreign artists which represent persons so distinguished.

5. The Exhibition will be held at South Kensington, in the spacious brick building used for the refreshment-rooms of the International Exhibition in 1862; and these galleries, which are perfectly dry, will be fitted up especially for the Exhibition, and patrolled day and night by the police.

6. All charges for the conveyance of pictures accepted for exhibition by the Committee will be defrayed by the Department of Science and Art.

7. The Exhibition will be opened early in April, 1866. The portraits, for the purpose of proper arranging and cataloguing, will be received not later than the second week in February; and will be returned at the end of August at the latest; but, though the Exhibition will continue open till that time, any owner who requires the return of his contributions at the end of July will have them forwarded to him at once.

8. In accordance with the usual practice, the Science and Art Department, unless the owner objects, will take photographs of such portraits as may be useful for illustration in the schools of Art, and allow them to be sold in the Museum; but no permission will be granted to any person to photograph, without the owner's express sanction. Two copies of each photograph taken will be presented to the owner of the picture photographed.

9. As was the case at the Exhibitions of 1851 and 1862 (and as is usual at the Royal Academy and other exhibitions), the Department cannot be responsible for loss or damage, but every possible care will be taken of works lent; and it may be added that the numerous paintings lent for exhibition in 1862 were collected and returned by the same agency as will now be employed, free from any injury or damage of any kind.

10. All correspondence, marked on the cover "National Portrait Exhibition," should be addressed to the Secretary of the Science and Art Department, South Kensington Museum, London, W.

By order of the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education.

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